

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Going over
Jenny MacArthur at the
Royal International
Horse Show
Going under
David Walker reports the
emergency meeting of the
Association of Metro-
politan Authorities to
debate the abolition of
the Metropolitan coun-
ties
Going West
Christopher Walker
meets the Israelis on the
West Bank
Going free
Veronica Grocock on
the trauma of a shoplift-
ing charge in the family
Coming out
Clifford Webb greets
Ford's latest model, the
Orion, making its
debut... two years late

Telecom's
profit dips
to £365m

British Telecom may increase
telephone charges following the
announcement that its profits
fell to £365m for 1982-83 from
£488m the year before. A
decision to write off assets more
quickly depressed the results,
which took experts by surprise.
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Gilmour presses
case for PR

Sir Ian Gilmour, a former
Conservative Cabinet minister,
has backed the new Campaign
for Fair Votes, which seeks the
introduction of proportional
representation. He said the
general election result was
indefensible.
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Parole hint

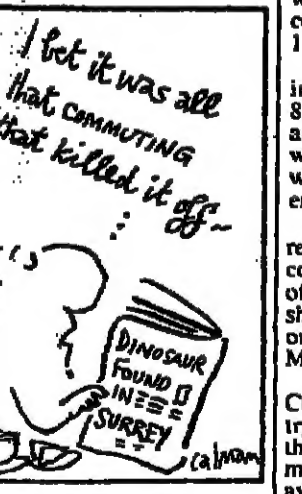
The Home Secretary has hinted
at a change in the parole system
to allow the earlier release of
some short-term prisoners.
Page 2

Defence deal

The Indian Navy has ordered
Sea King helicopters equipped
with Sea Eagle anti-ship mis-
siles from Britain in a deal which
may ultimately be worth more
than £200m.
Page 13

Air laws review

New flying regulations for
helicopters are being considered
by the Civil Aviation Authority
in the aftermath of the Scilly
Isles helicopter crash.
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Polish doubts

Poland moved nearer to lifting
martial law when Parliament
approved changes to the consti-
tution.
Page 6

Holders out

Surrey, the holders of the
NatWest Trophy, lost to War-
wickshire by nine wickets in the
second round of the competi-
tion. There were also wins for
Hampshire, Somerset, Glouce-
stershire, Northamptonshire,
Sussex, Middlesex and Kent.
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Letters: On parole limits, from
Lord Windlesham; Israel's
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Hawaii telescope, from Pro-
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would be president; Sweet talk
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on Clive James; Tom Hutchin-
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Goulden on sightseeing
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Clifford Rose

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CBI presses
for more cuts
in jobs
and spending

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry last night called for extra cuts in state spending and the loss of 360,000 jobs in public services in the coming year to avert what business leaders believe is the impending collapse of Britain's free enterprise system.

Sir Terence Beckett, the CBI director, giving clear support to the hard line being adopted by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, said that spending by government departments, town halls and the health service must be held down.

"If ministers fail to act, there is a real danger that taxation will rise. That would bring the recovery in trade and industry to an end."

Sir Terence, speaking on the eve of today's Cabinet meeting at which Mr Lawson is expected to dangle the carrot of tax cuts in front of colleagues if they agree to curb spending, added: "The state is swallowing us up; something has got to be done."

Members of the CBI's policy-making council yesterday expressed disquiet at the £5,000m that government departments want to spend in addition to published plans. Sir Terence said the CBI did not disagree with suggestions that this could lead to income tax rising to 45p in the pound.

"A halt in the upward trend in public spending is needed now. The future of free enterprise in this country is at stake. The public should be aware of the implications."

In the last three years, government spending's share of the nation's total of the nation's total output had risen from 41 to 44 per cent. On unchanged policies, with Britain experiencing low growth and with North Sea oil revenues starting to decline, the share could rise to 49 per cent by the end of the decade "with enormous implications for income tax and VAT."

The private sector had borne the brunt of the recession and made significant cuts in manpower and substantial improvements in productivity. Some of us in industry have had to do it year on year on year but we have not had a similar response from the public sector and this is chewing us up. If we don't get these cuts, the country will definitely be in decline."

A new CBI policy paper, approved by the council, which is being sent to Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, outlines the job cuts industry wants to see in the public services.

On present figures they would include 47,000 Civil Service redundancies in 1984-85, 41,000 in teaching, 90,000 in teaching support, 19,000 front

Continued on back page, col 6

Earnings
soar past
inflation

By Our Financial Staff

Average earnings rose twice as fast as inflation during the year to last May, confirming the steadily growing rise in the living standards of those in work and giving some support to the Government's claims of an economic recovery.

Earnings, as distinct from pay settlements, rose 8.4 per cent. After taking out back pay for wage agreements, which fell due in April, the underlying trend was still 7.4 per cent.

This compares to the retail price index, which showed a rise of only 3.7 per cent in May and the tax and prices index, which climbed only 3.2 per cent, both at the lowest level for 15 years.

A rise in the production index between April and May of 88.7 per cent to 90.2 per cent and much higher overtime worked with a fall in short-time working indicate a small recovery.

One area, however, where the recovery has fizzled out is in construction where Department of the Environment figures show a 6 per cent fall in new orders during the three months March to May.

Both the Government and Confederation of British Industry admit to being satisfied by the consistency of wage agreements, but CBI shows an average 5.7 per cent rise.

The disappointment for the Government is that wage levels are still running above target and that the rate of recovery - people earning more and thus spending more - is not high enough to create new jobs.

Although short-time working fell from 1.6 million man hours a week to 1 million hours the year covered, overtime climbed from 9.9 million man hours a week to 10.31 million hours a week.

Fall in council building, page 13

Industry's
pledge on
FT dispute

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A strong hint that employers would help in any attempt to break the seven-week-old strike that has halted the Financial Times came yesterday from Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI.

In a letter to Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Sir Terence said that if the Government wanted to "apply some pressure" in the dispute it would have the support of CBI members.

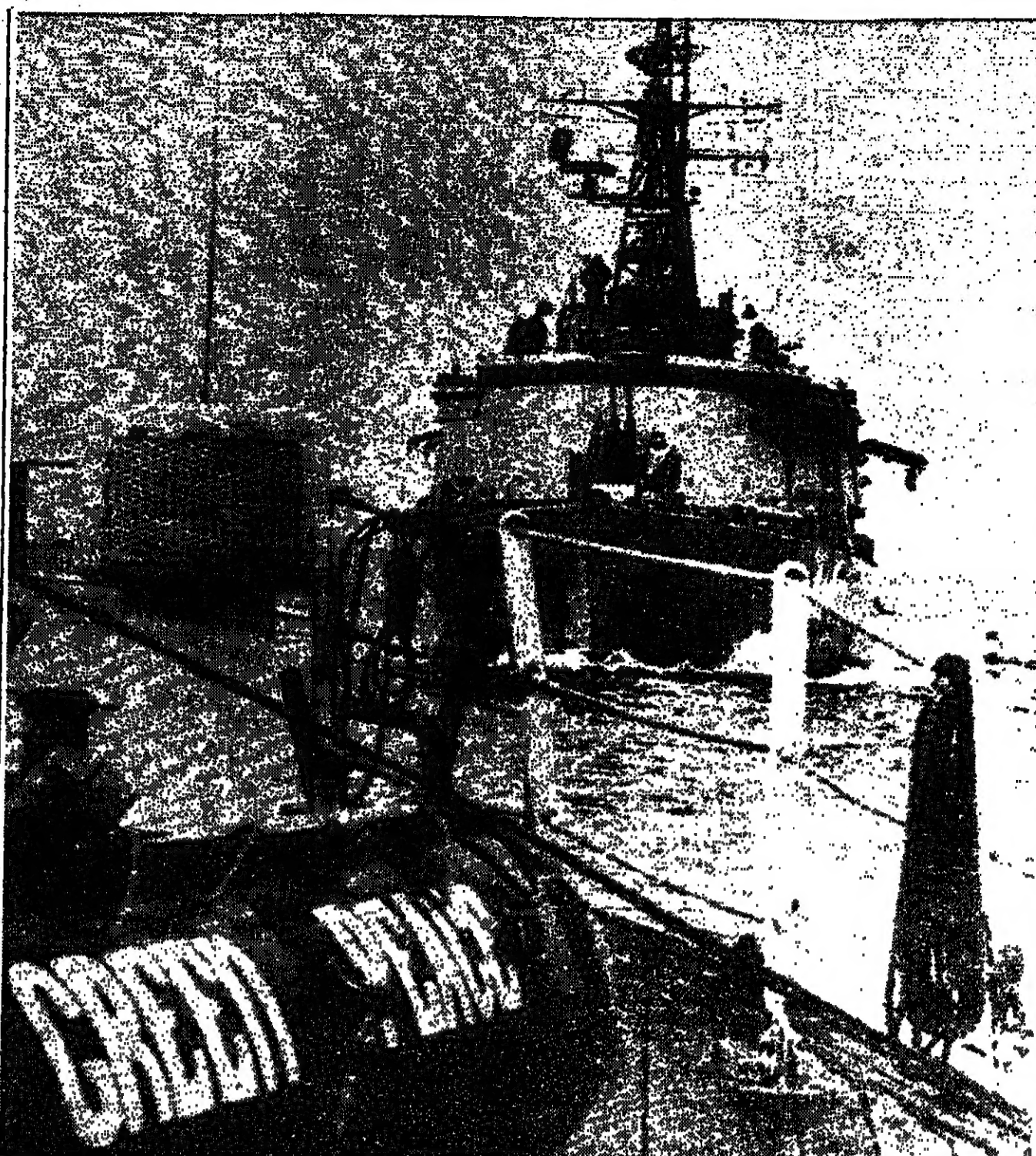
The letter was circulated yesterday to the staff of the Financial Times with a covering memorandum marked confidential. It is seen as an attempt to put further pressure on the National Graphical Association (NGA), 270 of whose members are on strike over a pay claim by 22 machine minders.

The national council of the NGA meets today to discuss the strike and it is likely to defy attempts by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, to force them to take part in mediation talks which he has underwritten.

The next stage would be a meeting of the TUC's finance and general purposes committee, which would ask the NGA leaders why they had refused to accept a mediator's report.

Meanwhile, representatives of the National Union of Journalists at the newspaper were being asked last night if they would cooperate in a plan to republish its Frankfurt edition without the help of the NGA.

A chapel (office branch) meeting of the journalists will receive a report from their representatives. Letters, page 11



Hot pursuit: A Soviet gunboat bears down menacingly on the Rainbow Warrior in the Bering Strait.

Greenpeace releases pictures
Concern for captured seven

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The conservation commands of the anti-whaling group Greenpeace have released pictures of their most dramatic confrontation yet.

Their ship Rainbow Warrior was menaced and chased across the Bering Strait by Soviet ships and helicopters, and seven Greenpeace members are being held after landing in Siberia.

Rainbow Warrior made its escape after a chase lasting several hours and reached the port of Nome in Alaska.

Pictures of the drama, processed and released yesterday, are available because of the courage of a Rainbow Warrior crew member who jumped from the ship into an inflatable boat to retrieve film lying in the bottom. He broke his ankle doing so.

The boat was empty because its occupant, who had been taking photographs, had just been captured by the Russians, plucked from the boat by helicopter.

Last night, Greenpeace said it was very concerned about the seven men and women arrested. The Soviet Government would only say that something had occurred in the Bering Strait and that seven people had been detained.

Greenpeace, which has a long record of fighting whaling, had already announced "a major confrontation at sea against Russia."

The Soviet Union, Japan, Norway and Peru continue to hunt whales in spite of last year's 25-7 vote by the International Whaling Commission to phase out all commercial whaling. Greenpeace was determined to put pressure on these countries.

Last December, Rainbow Warrior confronted a Peruvian whaler and protesters boarded it and chained themselves to the harpoon.

In the latest skirmish, a Greenpeace team crossed the Bering Strait, the narrow strip which separates Russia from the United States. Six people went ashore from Rainbow Warrior at Lorino whaling station on the Chukotka peninsula, to distribute leaflets and

Continued on back page, col 2

Hunt for suspected double child
killer put under one officer

A senior police officer is to take overall control of the hunt for a suspected double child killer. The inquiry is into the murders of Susan Maxwell, aged 11, and Caroline Hogg, aged five. The police believe that the murderer may be a driver or sales representative.

Strong links emerged last night between the two killings and 13 officers from Leicester, Northumbria, Lothian and Borders and Staffordshire drew up plans to coordinate the investigation.

Their decision to appoint an overall controller is a spin-off from the Yorkshire Ripper inquiry, which attacked glaring errors of communication and man management between forces.

The body of Caroline Hogg, an Edinburgh schoolgirl, was found in a ditch in Leicestershire on Monday, 11 days after she disappeared.

Susan Maxwell vanished from her home in Northumbria 12 months ago. Her body was discovered two weeks later near Uttoxeter, Staffordshire.

Mr Bill Sutherland, Lothian and Borders chief constable, said, last night: "We have established that there are certain similarities and because of that we have decided to appoint one officer in charge of all inquiries." The links are: The girls lived about 40 miles apart. Susan in Cornhill-on-Tweed, which is on the main route to Caroline's home at Portobello, Edinburgh. Their bodies were found 30 miles apart near main north-south roads from the Scottish borders to the Midlands. Susan was discovered near a lay-by on the A518, Caroline on the A444 between Twyross and Sibton roads joined by a section of the A50.

Both girls vanished on Friday evenings in July and country shows and fairs were going on near their homes.

70 Tories
rebel
on MPs' pay

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Government's attempt to make an example of MPs in its campaign to restrain public sector pay, failed early yesterday when 70 Conservative backbenchers voted with the Opposition.

The Commons insisted by eight votes, against government advice, on a formula that will link their pay on January 1, 1988, with that of civil servants now earning £18,500.

They will have an immediate increase in salary of £798, backdated to June 13, with four equal increments between next January 1 and January 1, 1987, bringing their salary from £14,510 to £18,500.

That the Government was ready to accept, but the effect of yesterday's vote will be to give MPs a further adjustment for inflation on January 1, 1988, at about the time an election must be held.

The amount would depend on the rate of inflation and the success of the Civil Service unions in negotiating increases to match it, but five annual increments of 4 per cent, for example, would lift an MP's salary by about £4,000 at an electoral sensitive time.

The immediate rise represents about 5½ per cent, against the immediate 30.9 per cent rise which the top salaries review board recommended and which most Labour MPs and many Conservatives thought should be paid.

Ministers yesterday made the most of their success in postponing for four and a half years a large political embarrassment.

But the cost in the goodwill of their backbench supporters has been heavy. Young and old Conservatives, from left and right of the party, were yesterday unanimous in their complaints of incompetence and insensitivity on the part of ministers.

The mildest charge is that the Cabinet misjudged the party by producing a formula which they should have known was unacceptable.

The angriest Conservatives say that the Cabinet's first offer, which was of a net 1.7 per cent increase, was intended to humiliate them.

The voting in the small hours yesterday may not dispose of the matter. Although the Government undertook to carry out the will of the Commons, many Conservative rebels dislike the arrangements now agreed almost as much as the Government does, though for different reasons.

Some dislike the idea of linkage to the Civil Service, others object to the scale of allowances for secretarial help and for car mileage, which is to be cut. What united them yesterday was their impatience with their leaders.

Parliamentary report, page 4

A record
\$10.2m
yearling

Lexington, (Reuters) - Sheikh Mohammed Al-Maktoum of Dubai paid a world record \$10.2m for a colt sired by Northern Dancer out of My Bupers, on the second and final day of the 40th annual Keeneland July selected yearling sale.

The purchase by the Sheikh's Aston Upthorpe Stud farm in Berkshire shattered the previous record of £4.25m. The Northern Dancer colt, sold by Don Johnson's Crescent Farm of Lexington, is out of a mare who never won but is the dam of the American sprint champion My Juliet.

The underbidder was Joss Collins, the English bloodstock agent, representing a group that included Robert Sangster and Stavros Niarchos.

During the sale, 301 yearlings were sold for a record \$150.9m.

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Gilmour presses case for PR to end 'bizarre' poll results

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Sir Ian Gilmour, the former Conservative Cabinet minister, said yesterday that the result of the general election was "plainly indefensible" because of the low number of seats won by the Alliance.

Sir Ian was speaking at a London press conference to launch a group called the Campaign for Fair Votes, which seeks to introduce proportional representation. He said: "The present system, as long as there are three parties, is likely to lead to very bizarre results, which can't really be justified."

He said that those Conservative MPs who had "profited from that system" were unlikely to agree with his judgment of the result, and he added: "I got 60 per cent of the vote, I would have won under any system."

Sir Ian, MP for Chesham and Amersham, said in his election address that he believed in electoral reform, but yesterday's statement of his disaffection with his own party. His address made no mention of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and he made no claim of economic recovery.

The campaign, which will work on an "all-party, no-party basis", will appeal for a million signatures for a petition demanding a referendum on proportional representation.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the former leader of the Social Democrats who is a co-sponsor of the campaign, said: "We are not campaigning on the basis of Alliance grievance. We are

fighting for justice for British voters, and for a more rational, fair and stable system of democratic representation."

He said: "The present system is a sort of wild electric saw which can mutilate in any direction. This time it was the Alliance which suffered. In future, it could easily be one of the other parties."

Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby and another co-sponsor, said: "We must bring pressure to bear on MPs of all parties to secure electoral justice."

The campaign literature states that among the many distortions produced by the electoral system, there were 15 counties in which Conservative representation was solid in spite of the fact that the Conservatives won only "little more than half the vote."

The counties were listed as Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Northamptonshire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Surrey, East and West Sussex, Warwickshire, and Wiltshire.

Mr Richard Holmes, the Liberal director of the campaign said that if the last election had been fought on a system of proportional representation the Alliance could have won 150 seats for their 7.7 million votes, Labour 180 seats for their 24 million votes, with the remainder, 330 seats, going to the nationalist parties, the Ulster parties, and the Conservatives.

Magnet car takes a step up

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

An important step towards exploiting a world market that could earn Britain £100m was completed yesterday with the placing by crane of the first glassfibre and aluminium car on the elevated guideway linking Birmingham's new airport terminal and the National Exhibition Centre.

The guideway is about 680 yards long and will carry the cars, which have no wheels on the world's first commercial Maglev (magnetic levitation) system.

The project involves companies such as GEC, Brush Electrical, Metro Cammell and British Rail, and West Midlands County Council. It has received government backing because of its experimental nature. The cost so far has been £3.5m and it has taken 18 months to build.

It is due to begin operating next spring when the air terminal is completed. Each car will carry 50 people on the 90-second link between the airport and exhibition centre.

Officials said that, despite the complexity and advanced technology of the Maglev system, there had been no big problems.

Hospital to oust mother

By Richard Evans

A health authority yesterday started legal proceedings against a mother who is refusing to leave a hospital in protest at "appalling" living conditions at her one-room home.

Mrs Pauline Neal, aged 28, was formally discharged from Crawley Hospital, West Sussex, on July 1, four weeks after giving birth to her third child. She has refused to leave the hospital's maternity unit until the local council rehouse her and her family.

Mrs Neal, her unemployed husband and their two other children, aged ten and two, have been living in bed and breakfast accommodation provided by social services after leaving their council home last August, days before they were due to be evicted for £500 rent arrears.

She says the accommodation in Springfield Road, Crawley, is infested with rats, fleas and cockroaches and is unsuitable for a baby.

Yesterday Mid-Downs health authority served a writ on Mrs Neal. Health chiefs will apply in the High Court on Tuesday for a legal injunction against her remaining in hospital.

Honours for the comic, the brave and the speedy



Investiture smiles: Among those receiving their awards at an investiture at Buckingham Palace yesterday were Leo McKern, the Australian-born actor renowned for his television portrayal as

Rumpole of the Old Bailey. He received the Order of Australia from the Queen. The family of Police Constable Francis O'Neill, of the Metropolitan Police, who was stabbed to death in 1980,

received the Queen's Gallantry Medal that was posthumously awarded to him. With Mrs Kathleen O'Neill are her children, Scott, Pauline, Caroline and Brian. Daley Thompson, the

athlete, who was appointed MBE, said afterwards: "I can't remember what the Queen said to me but it's very nice to get the honour." Sir Rex Hunt, Civil Commissioner of the Falklands, who was made a

knight, attended the investiture after flying in from the islands. "The Queen said that she was happy things had settled down in the Falklands", Sir Rex said.

Urgent review for helicopter rules

By Rupert Morris

The Civil Aviation Authority is urgently considering new regulations for helicopters in the aftermath of the tragedy in the skies of Sicily, helicopter companies have been unable to agree on a voluntary code of practice.

At the end of last year, the authority sent all helicopter operators a draft code of practice, but by June 30 they had failed to agree on a variety of highly technical matters.

Officials have now concluded that they will have to draw up their own regulations to present to Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Transport, later this year. The regulations will then be incorporated in the Air Navigation Order.

Likely to form part of any new regulations is a clause stipulating that helicopters of a certain type, such as the Sikorsky 61, which crashed at the weekend, should not fly when the cloud ceiling and visibility at the site of

Identity quest starts

From Craig Sefton, Penzance

Relatives of 17 of the 20 victims of the Sikorsky helicopter crash gathered in Penzance yesterday to identify the bodies recovered from the wrecked fuselage salvaged off St Mary's in the Isles of Scilly.

To spare the relatives, police hope to rely on photographs and dental records rather than visual identification. The bodies of three of those killed in Saturday's crash have still not been recovered, although more wreckage, mainly personal items of the holiday-makers on board the aircraft, was found washed up on local beaches.

After the recovery on Tuesday of the fuselage from the seabed 200ft below, the bodies were taken by salvage vessel to Penzance and moved to the

West Cornwall hospital where Home Office pathologists have been establishing the cause of death.

At Penzance the bodies were transported ashore from the salvage vessel Seaford Clansman by the Mabel Alice, the new Penzance lifeboat, a reminder of that other tragedy off the Cornish coast 18 months ago when 16 people, including eight lifeboatmen, were lost in a storm.

Six people, two of them weeping women, watched the sad landing at Penzance. Near by hundreds of holidaymakers lined the quayside in silence.

Mr Derrick Pepperell, the West Cornwall coroner, yesterday opened and then adjourned an inquest on the dead.

Sale room £18,360 for Yeats's mail to a lady

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

The record of the last passionate friendship in the life of W. B. Yeats, the Irish poet and playwright, did not make quite as much as Christie's had hoped yesterday. Nevertheless, Quarrich paid £18,360 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) for the magnificent series of 123 letters to Dorothy (Lady Gerald) Wellesley, which spanned the years 1935 to 1938.

Poetry is constantly discussed, composed and corrected between them, as is the theme of age and love, which was particularly pertinent to Yeats. He was to die in 1939 at the age of 74. "I heard a very cheerful story the other day", he writes. "A friend, whose brother had been medical adviser to the late Lord Kimberly, brought me the tale. At the age of 88 Lord Kimberly got a stroke from drinking too much whiskey. He was carried to an hospital, unconscious and left in charge of a rather pretty nurse. She was first aware of his return to consciousness when he said 'take off those clothes at once, young woman, and get into bed.' He thought he was in a house of ill fame. He died that night."

And Li Po also died drunk. He tried to embrace a moon in the Yellow River. "I heard this story old age has lost half its terrors." Most of the letters have been published, which may account for the lack of competitiveness in the bidding.

A snapshot of W. B. Yeats with Dorothy Wellesley, from the poet's correspondence, which was sold at Christie's.

Job gap widens for 'lost generation'

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Long-term unemployment among a "forgotten generation" is pointing to a wide gap in the provisions of the Manpower Services Commission.

More than 410,000 of those aged 18 to 25 have been out of work for more than a year, the commission's report for 1982/83 published yesterday says.

That represents nearly 45 per cent of the 940,000 jobless in the age group and the commission officials are worried that the Community Programme will not be able to cope.

The programme aims at providing full and part-time temporary jobs for people aged 25 and over who have been unemployed for at least 12 of the past 15 months and for those between 18 and 24 who have been out of work for at least six of the past nine months.

It is biased relatively towards the "forgotten" age group who will fill just more than half the 130,000 places expected by October. But Mr David Young, the commission chairman, and other commission officials, are thought to consider the provision seriously inadequate. They are likely to press for more cash aid from the Government.

The report also discloses that only 25,000 places were provided under the Training for

Skills programme out of a target of 35,000.

The commission's report was disappointed with the support from industry which was reluctant to offer places because of the recession and because of pessimism about the need for skilled labour.

Recurrent spells of unemployment are a serious difficulty for a significant group among the unemployed, the report says. A study funded by the commission of those who became unemployed in May, 1980, shows that although 60 per cent had obtained a job after 10 months, over one third of these were without jobs again a year later.

Youth unemployment rates reached a peak of 25 per cent in October, 1982, in spite of the expansion of the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP), without which, the report says, a further 750,000 young people might have been unemployed.

In a section of the report on the labour market, the commission detected the first signs of a slow economic recovery in 1982, but the numbers employed continued to decline sharply, falling by 640,000, compared with a 790,000 drop in 1981.

More than 500,000 school leavers gained training and work experience through the Youth Opportunities Programme over the same period.

Shore call to reverse left shift

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Peter Shore, one of the four contenders for the Labour leadership, said last night that Labour MPs had surrendered power to the left-dominated national executive in the run-up to the general election.

He said in a campaign speech to party members at the Commons: "A major redistribution of power has taken place within the Labour Party; one that has enhanced the powers of the national executive and diminished those of the Shadow Cabinet."

Mr Shore argued that the balance between executive and parliamentary party was the "critical issue" for the party's future. "The issue of who decides in the Labour Party has to be confronted openly."

From the end of next year, Labour MPs would be subjected to the process of mandatory reselection by their constituency parties.

Cadet hurt in lorry crash dies

Another army cadet died in hospital last night after the accident in which a lorry overturned at the Warcup army range in Cumbria as it brought 17 cadets back from a summer camp exercise.

He was Conrad Bard, aged 15, of Shirley Park, Croydon, who had suffered severe injuries in the crash in which James Lyall, aged 18, of Ravensbourne Avenue, Shortlands, Bromley, Kent, was killed.

Richard Bridges, aged 15, was seriously ill but "stable" in the intensive care unit of the Cumberland Infirmary in Carlisle.

Protest over rate controls

The Government was accused yesterday of using Scotland as a testing ground for the extensive powers it wants to introduce to control council rates. Scottish Labour councillors who are in London to lobby MPs who are to debate Scottish ratings powers today, claimed to be guinea pigs in an experiment by Mrs Margaret Thatcher that would, they said, end only with the destruction of local democracy.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, is to lay before Parliament orders allowing him to force the councils of Stirling, Lothian, Kirkcaldy and Glasgow to cut present spending and reduce rates.

Democracy at stake? - page 10

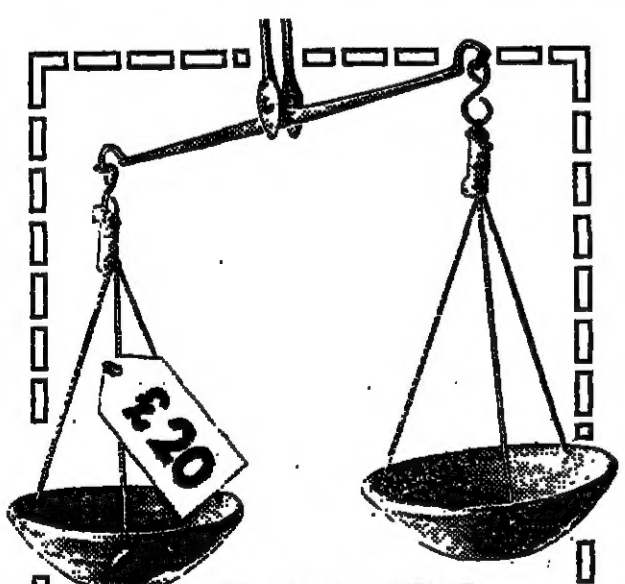
Beach blaze

Thirty firemen tackled a blaze at a three-storey building near the Ghost House on the south shore of Blackpool beach yesterday.

Correction

In a report on July 15 it was wrongly stated that Mr Leonard Matcham, owner of the island of Breckhow, was an atheist. In fact, as he has asked us to point out, he is an agnostic.

Overseas selling prices
Austria 200 28, Belgium 200 28, Bulgaria 200 28, Canada 200 28, Czechoslovakia 200 28, Denmark 200 28, France 200 28, Germany 200 28, Greece 200 28, Hong Kong 200 28, India 200 28, Italy 200 28, Japan 200 28, Korea 200 28, Luxembourg 200 28, Malaysia 200 28, Mexico 200 28, Netherlands 200 28, New Zealand 200 28, Norway 200 28, Poland 200 28, Portugal 200 28, Spain 200 28, Sweden 200 28, Switzerland 200 28, Taiwan 200 28, Thailand 200 28, Turkey 200 28, United Kingdom 200 28, United States 200 28, Yugoslavia 200 28



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Public spending: 2

Taking the strain for annual tug of war

Public spending, like an ocean liner, takes an inordinate length of time to change course after the wheel has been turned. The demand by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for immediate cuts of £500m in departmental programmes to bring public spending closer to plan this year, small though the sum may be in comparison with total spending of £119,600m, has thus caused much anguish as departments search for quick reductions.

The anguish is made more acute because the cuts are falling, not on the over-spending programmes themselves, which are demand-determined and hard to trim in the short-term, but on cash-limited programmes that are already tightly budgeted.

Treasury projections suggest that public spending may be racing about £3,000m ahead of plans but Mr Lawson is said to regard his July measures as adequate.

It would be virtually impossible for departments to find further savings this year, especially by the autumn when the financial year will be half way through. But Mr Lawson will also be hoping that his

Today's Cabinet meeting marks the start of the annual battle between the Treasury and spending ministries. For Mr Peter Rees (right), Chief Secretary to the Treasury, it is likely to prove unusually gruelling. But FRANCES WILLIAMS reports, the Treasury will probably achieve the cuts it wants.

preemptive strike will have prompted a search for economies from officials who may have taken too relaxed a view of spending discipline, making further action unnecessary.

The Chancellor had a second motive however. His cuts package was a working shot across the bows of spending ministers in the run-up to the annual public spending review of plans for next year and beyond.

Mr Lawson is losing no opportunity to impress on his Cabinet colleagues that without a tight rein on public spending there will be no room for significant tax cuts over the life of this Parliament. Departments have put in bids

totaling £5,000m more than the £126,400m envisaged for next year in February's public spending White Paper, which would have allowed for spending to stand still in real terms.

Mr Lawson, backed by the Prime Minister, will insist on sticking to published plans when the Cabinet meets to discuss the issue today.

The Government cannot rely on extra revenues boosted by economic recovery to come to the rescue, he will tell ministers. Other factors, such as lower inflation, or a higher pound which reduces the sterling value of North Sea oil taxes, could equally well depress revenues, he will argue, implying more spending cuts.

This is all part of the traditional battle of words before the public spending round begins in earnest. The Chancellor will not in fact be demanding a reduction in published plans. He will instead ask ministers to agree to leave intact next year's £3,000m contingency reserve.

That would normally be reduced to accommodate some essential extra bids. By leaving it untouched Mr Lawson gives himself some leeway to cut taxes in the next Budget or to keep state borrowing on track without raising taxes if revenues are less buoyant than expected.

But that means a gruelling slog ahead for Mr Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, when he begins the blow-by-blow negotiations with individual departments in September.

Some of the £5,000m excess will be lost without much ado as departments withdraw bids for new programmes and reduce the padding on others. But a hard core of necessary spending is certain to remain. Without the cushioning of the contingency reserve, extra spending in one area must be financed by painful cuts in others.

Tomorrow: Defence spending

Press accused of lying over Sutcliffe case

HOUSE OF LORDS

If the present process continued and there were more Sutcliffe cases and more examples of gross, indefensible intrusion into privacy by the press, then the House of Lords would be asked to take a hand. Lord Hailsham of Greenwich (SDP) said in the House of Lords when he opened a debate on the Press Council's report on the Sutcliffe case.

He said he did not favour the introduction of new repressive legislation on the law of contempt. But just as clearly what he and others wanted was an end to the catalogue of grossly irresponsible conduct chronicled by the Press Council in its report on the Sutcliffe case, which had been repeated in some less notorious cases since then.

On the aspect of cheque-book journalism, he said no one could read about the heavily written notes offered for sale by the press, through the letterboxes of Mr Sutcliffe's relatives and others without experiencing a deep sense of revulsion.

No one could read of the remorseless harassment of the bereaved mother of the last of Mr Sutcliffe's victims without being shocked by the almost indecent conduct of sections of the press.

There had been calculated deceit practised by a number of newspapers in their response to inquiries by the Press Council. If any of those newspapers had caught out a politician making such wholly untruthful statements they would have demanded his instant resignation. (Cheers) They seemed to apply rather different standards to their own conduct.

Wholly deceitful statements had been made by a number of newspapers to the Press Council on the question of fees offered to Mr Sutcliffe's relatives and to Mrs Dorcas Hill, the mother of the last victim.

He did not favour a statutory Press Council and disliked press laws in principle. It was because so many in both Houses of Parliament opposed statutory regulation of any kind that they found the conduct of the press at the moment so disgusting.

The blunt truth was that some sections of the press regarded the Press Council with scarcely veiled contempt. The Press Council was a minority who cared little for its views and were prepared to say so in the most unambiguous language.

It was now time for the newspaper industry, and particularly the three principal proprietors, to put their own house in order because if they failed to do so they would do great damage to the cause of free press. (Cheers)

Lord Ardwick, for the Opposition, said he was disappointed that no newspaper publisher or proprietor who was a member of the House was taking part in the debate. Nobody wanted editors stifled by their proprietor, but the proprietors

must recognize that they and their editors had a joint responsibility to the public.

Four or five national newspapers had gone beyond the pale in their search for information about the Sutcliffe case. They had aroused such public indignation that there was a danger of restraining legislation which would restrict the freedom of the media. If the press did not put their own house in order, somebody would do it for them and it could be crippling and unpleasant.

Although it was impossible to justify the behaviour of the press, which was outrageous, one could see the temptation was enormously strong. This was the murder of the century, in which the murderer had gone for five years undetected and killed 13 people. It was a state of affairs in which the women of Yorkshire and Lancashire were afraid to leave their homes at night.

It is not the last sensational case which is going to come before us. One wonders what will happen when the next case comes along. How will the press behave? The Press Council were satisfied that unless the press regulated its conduct, cases for legislation against cheque book journalism were likely to continue to multiply.

The council had decided to extend its Declaration of Principle. The original declaration did not bar payments to people related to, or associated with, those engaged in crime. The council had now come to the conclusion that such payments were wrong.

The council were right to take some action to bring themselves and newspapers into line with public opinion. The new chairman of the council should have individual meetings with editors to discuss ways in which the extension of the declaration could be made workable and, because it was workable, could gain respect.

Editors (said) live curiously cloistered lives. They arrive at their offices towards luncheon and often go down to the printing plant to deal of their time is spent with other newspapermen. Though they learn from their messengers a great deal about public opinion on almost every subject, they seldom have any direct experience of the people who read their newspapers and the media.

There is today a general ambivalence towards the media among ordinary people. The media is both loved and hated. People are sometimes gripped by them but resent their enslavement. The public often feel that the papers on the one side and television on the other have become a two-headed monster with an excess of power.

Newspapers may have devoted readers, but the press as an institution has few friends. It may have fewer defenders if the conduct of several newspapers inspires proposals for repressive legislation.

Lady Sharples (C) said one of the most unattractive aspects was that no thought was given to the hurt misery and disgust felt by the



Harris: Calculated deceit.



Ardwick: Beyond the pale.

families of the victims. The Press Council had changed the declaration in principle to cover payments to relatives and associates of criminals.

The council should be given all the backing it needed. It did not ask for legislation, and if that was its feeling it should be able to put the press had been given another chance to put their house in order.

Lord Winger (L) said the main responsibility for what had occurred resided with the police. The police themselves, in many of their activities that started this matter off, were in contempt of court. Mass irresponsibility overwhelmed the press.

He supported the freedom of the press, a vital and all because it was an essential prerequisite for any form of free society. It was not proper to go on to say that that freedom could only be exercised on certain terms of conditions. Some newspapers, including *The Times*, had indicated how undesirable they thought the conduct of their fellow journalists had been.

He did not want to suggest that the Press Council should be given statutory powers, but the law on contempt should be enforced. There should be laws against the worst kind of cheque-book journalism.

Lord McGregor of Durris (SDP), who was chairman of the Royal Commission on the Press, said this squalid episode highlighted once again the recurring theme of anxiety about the conduct of the press. With the Sutcliffe case, the point was reached at which the irresponsibility became intolerable.

A fundamental question in the debate was whether the objectives of a statutory body were sustainable. Should democrats use legal sanctions to impose responsibility upon the press? He believed a recourse to law, however superficially attractive it might appear to be, would be a dangerous innovation.

What we are talking about (he went on) is a disease of Fleet Street. There is strong resentment which has been expressed by editors and journalists in the provinces that they are tarred with the Fleet Street brush.

The majority of publishers must isolate and discipline the tiny minority of troublemakers among publishers and editors.

They must expect from publishers a series of public commitments. There should be a public commitment to provide adequate funding for the Press Council in order that it might have the staff to deal efficiently with its work. It must be raised from an automatic levy on circulations.

A second public commitment was an agreement on the part of all

publishers to support the Press Council and to undertake to ensure that in all their publications editors would be required to observe the Press Council standards.

The publishers must act in this way or there must be legislative action with all the risks entailed.

Lord Jacobson (Lab), who said he was for a number of years on the Press Council, pointed out that the circulation was had reached a figure which had presented the Press Council with a vast increase in the number of complaints and with a great decline in the standards of popular journalism among some papers.

There was a small handful of newspaper proprietors and publishers and two of them were in the House - Lord Rothermere of the *Daily Express* and the *Daily Star*. The other was Mr Rupert Murdoch, owner of *The Sun* and the *News of the World*.

Lord Eton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said the sensitive and difficult issue of cheque-book journalism was the main subject of the report.

The most objectionable aspect of press conduct in the case of Peter Sutcliffe had been the payment of large sums of money for stories and information about people related to, or associated with, Sutcliffe.

The Government shared the view of people who condemned this type of cheque-book journalism. It was always wrong for crime to pay. It was both wrong and offensive. It should be made to pay on such a grand scale, whether the profit accrued to the criminal or anyone else.

The Government welcomed the Press Council's action in strengthening its existing declaration of principle by asserting that just as it was wrong that the evil-doer should benefit from his crime, so it was wrong that a person associated with the criminal should derive financial benefit from trading on that association.

The Government also wanted to avoid those forces and then had the Press Council's action in strengthening its existing declaration of principle by asserting that just as it was wrong that the evil-doer should benefit from his crime, so it was wrong that a person associated with the criminal should derive financial benefit from trading on that association.

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Defence sales to reach £2,400m: India orders helicopters

DEFENCE

British Sea King helicopters with Gnome engines and Sea Eagle missiles will be sold to the Government of India, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, announced in the Commons. He said, when opening the second day of the defence debate, that Western Helicopters, Rolls Royce and British Aerospace had signed contracts yesterday.

He also said that discussion with Britain's European partners on the potential for collaborative development and production of a future combat aircraft had so far been promising.

An Opposition amendment to the Government motion seeking approval of the defence estimates, called on the Government to work within Nato for a strong non-nuclear defence policy and, in particular, to cease its reliance upon Trident and the deployment of cruise missiles within the United Kingdom.

Mr Pattie said that this year Britain would spend more than £7,000m on defence equipment. The proportion of the defence budget which that represented had been increasing steadily and stood at 46 per cent. That vast sum took a substantial fraction of the total output of several sectors of British industry, for more than 90 per cent of it was spent with British suppliers.

The primary purpose of expenditure on defence was to ensure that the needs of the armed forces but a secondary aim was to ensure the continuing existence of a national defence industrial base capable of meeting those needs now and in the future.

While research and development in the defence programme was directed towards defence objectives, the value of defence-inspired technology to industry was fully recognized. The Ministry of Defence attached great importance to securing civil spin-off from defence research whenever possible. They were about to commission a major management consultancy study into how greater benefits could be secured.

Over the next few years, four regiments would be equipped with the Challenger tank, the first of which had rolled out from the Royal Ordnance Factory Leeds, in March. A programme of improvement of the Challenger tank was being undertaken by the Challenger and Chief tank tanks in the forefront of armoured war technology.

In thermal imaging British research at Royal Signals and Radar Establishment Malvern had given Britain a world lead.

The new battlefield information system, BATES, was expected to enter service in the late 1980s. This computer-based system would enable the commander of a tank to see through the eyes of his crew, effective and efficient use of existing resources by concentrating fire on the highest priority targets.

The first production contract for WAVE, an automated command and control system, was being awarded to the Ministry of Defence. It was expected to be placed shortly, following successful trials with 1(BR) Corps. First production deliveries of the new trunk

acting illegally in supplying goods to the Falkland Islands. The Falkland Islands Company, which has a 1 per cent of the group's profits.

US objectives in Central America

The United States' Objectives in Central America are pacification of the area, the restoration of stable social conditions and a reduction in the flow of arms to that part of the world, Mr Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said at a question time in the Commons.

Mr James Lamsont (Oxford Central and Royston, Lab) asked: Is anyone in the Foreign Office aware that there is a deepening crisis in central America made worse by American naval measures in the area, increased involvement with aggressive government there and now the suggestion that Dr Henry Kissinger is to become involved?

Mr Howe said that the Government could be expected to take a word of caution to the United States President about this.

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communicating network, PTARMIGAN, were expected this year.

The RAF would need, for their role on the central front, an advance agile fighter aircraft to meet the expected air threat in the central region in the mid-1990s and beyond.

To give a sounder base for future decisions on an aircraft for the role, they were participating in the experimental aircraft programme, a joint venture involving both the Royal Aeronautical Establishment and industry.

That would bring together and demonstrate in one aircraft a wide range of advanced technologies applicable to a variety of future aircraft designs.

The MOD had placed the production order for the JP 233 airfield attack weapon to be carried on Tornado GR1. It was also acquiring an improved version of the BL 755 anti-armour weapon, an interim measure until an advanced "smart" anti-armour weapon, for which studies were underway, was available in the 1990s.

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mitigate this trend, in about 80 years the entire defence budget would be sufficient to buy just one tactical aircraft.

In economic terms overseas sales played a major role in maintaining the profitability of Britain's defence industries. Yesterday, Westland Helicopters, Rolls Royce and British Aerospace signed contracts for the supply of Sea King helicopters, Gnome engines and Sea Eagle missiles to the Government of India.

Equipment sold overseas consisted predominantly of high technology products with a high added value. Hawk, Jaguar, Sea King and Rapier missiles had all sold well in recent years.

It was essential for this country to maintain an innovative capability in these areas by keeping skilled design and production teams together as a springboard for future industrial development. This could only be done if the production runs were low enough to recoup the substantial investment involved and earn a reasonable level of profit.

Since Britain's own requirements did not provide the long production runs now needed to secure an adequate return on high technology investment, overseas sales were vital.

Under this Government and its predecessor defence sales had grown steadily, total receipts were expected to reach £2,400m in the current financial year, compared with £1,500m in 1981-82. This was a healthy contribution to Britain's balance of payments in a period of recession accounting for some 3 per cent of total exports.

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While many sales were made to the developed countries, notably the Middle East, it was particularly gratifying that there was a steady improvement in sales to the United States. In 1977 the ratio was 4:1 in favour of the United States, whereas it was now assessed to be only 2:1.

The Government intended to introduce legislation this session to change the status of the Royal Ordnance factories to enable them to operate in a more commercial environment under the Companies Acts. In due course, the intention was to involve private capital directly either through sale to the private sector, joint venture or flotation of shares.

Since last May they had been preparing the Royal Ordnance factories for this new role as a free-standing commercial enterprise and their own sales arm had already been set up. A new chairman had been appointed and they next planned to transfer the staff and facilities necessary to give them their own capability in design, development and applied research.

The ROFs (he said) will face a challenging future but the opportunities are great.

increased, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said when replying to questions on his statement on the outcome of the Foreign Affairs Council held in Brussels on Monday.

The burden of showing that the Community needed and should have an increase in own resources was still upon those who sought to do it, he said. The Government was prepared to listen to those arguing that case and consider it on its merits.

Howe may have talks on death penalty

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during question time changes in the Commons that he was willing to talk to the Home Secretary about the possibility of British signing a protocol seeking to write into the European Convention on Human Rights the abolition of the death penalty.

Mr John Major (Leisham West, C) asked if he considered whether he should advise the Government to sign Protocol 6 as this would seem appropriate action for Britain to take.

Mr Howe said it is a matter I would be prepared to discuss with the Home Secretary.

figure was perfectly adequate and ought not to be increased. Mr Peter Bottomley (Eltham, C) said the poor could afford to become MPs and so could the rich. In the long term it was important that people in the middle should be able to contemplate a parliamentary career without a devastating impact on their financial situation as well as their own stresses and strains of being an MP.

Mr Christopher Chope (Southampton, I), in a maiden speech, said that the debate would be listened to by three million unemployed who had made greater sacrifices than some MPs. It seemed, he was prepared to make now. They had a chance to take Britain's low-inflation country and they should do nothing to jeopardize that.

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said that he was strongly opposed to linkage to other salaries. Resources had to be provided to MPs if they were to provide a democratic government in a

Mr Biffes said that if the full Government report was voted for it was the political judgement of the Government (he said) that the implementation of Flounden would not be helpful and not consistent with the general thrust of Government policy.

The various votes lasted more than an hour and the House at 4.39 am - the longest sitting so far, at just over 14 hours, of the new Parliament.

The salary wanted to be a figure which could not in any way be mistaken for the going rate of for remuneration of the alternative salary they might be commanded if they had made a choice different from that which they and the electorate made on June 9. Viewed in that light, the present

MPs outline legislation proposals

COMMONS

The following 20 private members' Bills were formally introduced, read a first time and set down for second reading on the following Fridays:

NOVEMBER 11
Video Recordings Bill to make provision for regulating the distribution of video recordings. (Mr Graham Bright, Luton South, C.)

Trade Marks Act 1938 (Amendment) Bill to amend the Trade Marks Act 1938 to afford registration for service marks. (Mr Stephen Dorrell, Loughborough, C.)

Partnership in Youth Service Bill to give a statutory basis for youth work and consultation between local education authorities and voluntary youth organisations. (Sir Patrick Wall, Beverley, C.)

Agriculture (Amendment) Bill to amend section 2(3) of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1944 so far as it relates to provisions for limiting the number of directors of the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation who may be appointed in addition to those officially nominated and provisions for restricting the dividends on the corporation shares except as to certain shares under section 64 of the Agriculture Act 1967 towards fulfilling guarantees of bank loans to be made in relation to a wider range of conferred by subsection (1) of the Agriculture Act 1967 and to repeat subsection (5) of that section. (Mr Edward Leigh, Gainsborough and Horsham, C.)

Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill to amend the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 in relation to the conduct and advertisement of licensed betting offices and to make provision for the alteration of the provisions of paragraph 20 of the Schedule 1 to that Act. (Sir Ian Gilmour, Chesham and Amersham, C.)

Cycle Tracks Bill to amend the definition of cycle tracks in the Highway Act 1980 and to make further provision in relation to cycle tracks within the meaning of that Act. (Mr Cecil Franks, Barrow and Furness, C.)

Representation of the People Bill to enable electors who are away on holiday at the time of a Parliamentary election to vote by post or by proxy. (Mr Anthony Durant, Reading, C.)

NOVEMBER 18
Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) Bill to make further provision for, and to amend, the law relating to disabled persons. (Mr Robert Curran, Liverpool West Derby, Lab.)

Caravan and Tent Sites Bill to make provision as to the licensing and control of caravan and tent sites. (Mr Peter Hubbard-Miles, Bridgend, C.)

NOVEMBER 25
Social Security (Age of Retirement) Bill to make provision for flexible and equal ages of retirement. (Sir David Price, Eastleigh, C.)

Immigration Offences (Amendment) Bill to amend section 24 of the Immigration Act 1971 to make it an offence under subsection (1)(A) of that section. (Mr John Blackburn, Dudley West, C.)

DECEMBER 2
Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Bill to make new provision for Scotland with respect to the extinction of obligations to make contributions to wrongdoers to amend the law relating to the time-limits for bringing actions which consist of or include a claim of damages in respect of personal injuries or a personal injury claim, provision relating to the application of rules of law of a country other than Scotland in respect of the extinction of obligations or the limitation of time within which proceedings must be brought to enforce obligations. (Mr Alexander Eadie, Midlothian, Lab.)

Northern Ireland Act 1982 (Amendment) Bill to facilitate the resumption of legislative and executive functions of the Northern Ireland Assembly and by persons responsible to it, by amending the Northern Ireland Act 1982. (Mr Kenneth Maginnis, Fermanagh and South Tyrone, DUP.)

Juries (Disqualification) Bill to make further provision for disqualification for jury service on criminal grounds. (Mr John Watson, Skipton and Ripon, C.)

DECEMBER 9
Sex Equality Bill to make further provision

Managua agrees to international talks on Central America crisis

From Marlene Simons (NYT), Managua

Nicaraguan Government marking the fourth anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution, announced yesterday that it was willing to participate in international talks to achieve peace in Central America.

The announcement also called for negotiations on other points previously demanded by the United States, including arms supplies and any support for the left rebels in El Salvador.

The announcements came in a main anniversary address, which was delivered by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the ruling Sandinista Government.

He said the Nicaraguan position on talks was designed to open the way for negotiations, and would permit steps to be taken by the United States and Honduras.

He also said that the decision appeared to be a result of the Government's position, and also a move made by the four members of the Contadora group - Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and the United States - in the last weekend.

Nicaragua had said previously that it wanted to hold talks only with Honduras, while the United States and Honduras

insisted on including other issues and nations in the region.

Señor Ortega's six-point proposal for immediate broader talks also included a non-aggression pact between Nicaragua and Honduras, a freeze on all arms shipments to El Salvador, and an end to the use of foreign territories to attack countries with internal conflicts.

While this language was aimed at US backing for the Salvadoran Government and the anti-Sandinista rebels based in Honduras, it also addressed Washington's concern over Cuban arms supplies to Nicaragua, and Nicaraguan arms shipments to the insurgent in El Salvador.

The apparent Nicaraguan reversal on talks came as the Reagan Administration announced new measures against the Sandinistas, including military manoeuvres and the possibility of establishing a military quarantine round Nicaragua.

In recent interviews, senior government officials in Managua have said that they believe Washington is preparing a military intervention to overthrow them, and that only American public opinion and the US Congress can prevent this.

A growing feeling that war may be coming could also be sensed in the official ceremonies. Already the conflict with rebels along the northern and southern borders has caused the death of 600 people.

He told the crowd to prepare for more fighting.

Besides being less aggressive in tone towards the United States than most Nicaraguan officials, Señor Ortega also made several conciliatory gestures aimed at the domestic audience.

Speaking in the historic city of León, 60 miles west of the capital, he said that the Government would cancel all debts of peasants serving as reservists or in the militia.

He repeated the Government's pledge to hold general elections in 1985, but contrary to wide expectations he gave no date. Aware to these expectations, the Government has been prodding the Council of State to complete its debate on laws governing political parties and electoral proceedings.

Leading article, page 11



Big band: Members of the Sandinista militia showing their appreciation during the fourth anniversary celebrations in León yesterday.

Rios Montt blames friend for plot

Guatemala City (Reuters) - President Efraín Rios Montt of Guatemala admitted yesterday that the army colonel who last year helped him to seize power tried to topple him in a coup last month.

General Rios Montt told a press conference that Colonel Francisco Gordillo Martínez, a former junta member, and Señor Lionel Sisona Otero, deputy leader of the right-wing National Liberation Movement, prepared the takeover plot.

He said that army officers refused to join what he called "the fascist manoeuvre" and added that his two opponents had been "manipulated by the marxists". Warrants for their arrest were issued.



Not amused: Mr Anthony Quintan, US envoy in Managua, registering his disapproval of the Sandinista anthem by turning his back.

Greeks in weak position

Stalemate has its attractions

CYPRUS Part 2

In the second article of a new series on Cyprus, DWARD MORTIMER looks at the viewpoints of the various sides disputing the future of the island.

On June 15 the United Nations Security Council renewed the mandate of UNFICYP, the UN force in Cyprus, for another six months, and again asked Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General, to continue his mission of good offices, while giving the two communities to pursue their intercommunal talks.

These are essentially the remedies that have been prescribed for the Cyprus dispute since the 1960s, so far without inducing a cure. "We are running to renew our commitment in Cyprus because we want to behave responsibly," Mr Ian MacEachen, the Canadian Foreign Minister, remarked recently, "but there must come a day when we are asking whether we are helping or impeding a political solution."

Many Greeks ask the same question. They are not running to renew our commitment in Cyprus because we want to behave responsibly, but there must come a day when we are asking whether we are helping or impeding a political solution.

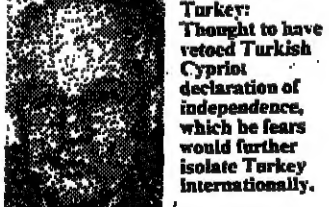
The Turks, by contrast, maintain that the Turkish Cypriots are only there because of intercommunal conflict and must not be sent home until it has been resolved. After all, they say, it did not start when the Turkish troops landed in 1974. There had been serious fighting between the two communities far back as 1963. Even Mr Jay Darduran, leader of the Turkish Cypriot opposition and strong advocate of compromise with the Greeks, rejects as nonsense the suggestion that an enlarged UN force could by itself protect the Turkish Cypriots from the Greeks.

He agrees that Turkey has strategic reasons of its own for being in Cyprus, but argues that these could have been secured by holding a small base around Nicosia. It is to protect the Turkish Cypriots, he says, that Turkey is occupying two-fifths of the island.

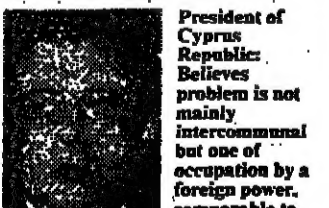
On the whole, that view seems to be appreciated by the six Western powers. With the exception of France, which now has a strongly pro-Greek line,



Rauf Denktaş



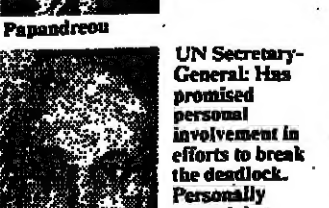
Kenan Evren



Spyros Kyprianos



Papandreu



Pérez de Cuellar

and that General Assembly resolutions do not outweigh the strength of the Turkish position on the ground. Indeed, resolutions such as the latest one can be counterproductive, since they provoke the Turkish side into further hardening its attitude.

Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, reacted to the resolution by announcing that he would propose a referendum on independence for the north.

On June 17 the Turkish Cypriot assembly passed a resolution affirming the right of Turkish Cypriots to self-determination. But no date has been fixed for the referendum, and it seems that it is being kept in reserve for the time being.

Even this "concession" was achieved at a price, from the Greek point of view, the elimination from the Secretary-General's report to the Security Council and from the renewed mandate which the Council has given him of any reference to the General Assembly resolution which "considers the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces... as an essential basis for a solution of the Cyprus problem".

That the Greeks have gone along with this is seen by some as an encouraging sign. They have agreed, in effect, to leave the General Assembly resolution in the background and to give Señor Pérez de Cuellar a chance to breathe life into the moribund intercommunal talks.

Another moderately encouraging sign on the Greek Cypriot side is a spate of recent statements about the need for "political decisions" - a code phrase for concessions. President Kyprianos has been trying to reconstitute the National Council, an all-party Greek Cypriot forum, with a view to getting broad enough support for whatever decisions he eventually takes.

But it remains doubtful whether any Greek Cypriot leader can accept what the Turks want, namely a federation in which the minority community would have both complete control of its own area and an equal say in all decisions of the central government; and whether, even if the Greek Cypriots did accept that, the Turks would make significant territorial concessions in return.

The stalemate has its drawbacks for both sides, but both find its continuation preferable to any alternative they have so far been offered.

Tomorrow: The divided island.

Iraq says Exocets used to hit Iran's oil

Baghdad (Reuters) - Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, said yesterday that Iraq was using French-made Exocet missiles in the Gulf war and its Air Force and Navy would continue to hit Iranian oil and industrial installations.

"Iraq is determined to threaten Iranian petroleum and economic interests in the Gulf," Mr Aziz told a press conference. Asked if French air-to-surface Exocet missiles were being used, he replied: "The French missiles have been used since the beginning of the war and are still used against Iranian targets."

"Iraq's possession of these missiles was part of its armament before they were used in the Falklands war."

Iranian installations would remain targets for Iraqi bombs so long as Iran hampered the free flow of oil from the Gulf, he added.

Iran had destroyed large parts of Iraq's oil installations in the Gulf since the war started nearly three years ago. It had "forced a military siege that hampered the export of oil from the south, hence Iraq must act in the same way and inflict harm to the Iranian oil installations at any level."

Zimbabwe officers 'confessed freely'

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Statements by six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers, in which they allegedly admitted complicity in the Thornhill base sabotage attack were clear and truthful confessions, freely given, on which the accused should be convicted, the High Court was told here yesterday.

In his final arguments for the prosecution at the end of the eight-week trial, Mr Honourable Justice Gubbins said that although the identities of those who carried out the sabotage of 13 aircraft last July had not been established, there could be no doubt that the six accused had aided in the devastation of Zimbabwe's air defences. The state has alleged that the saboteurs were three South African agents.

Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, former deputy commander of the Air Force, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir have pleaded not guilty to involvement in the sabotage, maintaining that their statements were false, having been extracted under duress.

Mr Mkushi said the claims by the accused that they had mixed truth with falsehood to give added realism to their statements were without substance.

In each case, he told Mr Justice Gubbins, the statements contained factual material capable of verification.

Of the statement by Air Vice-Marshal Slater, Mr Mkushi said: "There is nothing improbable in it. The style and smooth flow of the writing do not suggest a man under duress."

Turning to Squadron Leader John Ncube, the chief prosecution witness, Mr Mkushi said he had given clear evidence that he had witnessed a run-down in security at Thornhill in the months before the sabotage. When the officer had taken this up with Squadron Leader Cox, who had responsibility for security manpower, he had replied: "We are at peace now."

Mr Mkushi also referred to a document entitled *An appreciation of Operation Sabotage*, produced frequently during the trial. He said that the document, which the defence claims was simply a theoretical exercise designed to evaluate security preparedness at Thornhill, bore striking similarities to the sabotage.

Mr Harry Ognall QC, for the defence, is to follow with his final arguments, which are expected to be completed tomorrow. The court will then adjourn for judgment, expected late in August.

France way ahead at bridge contest

From Keith Stanley

Wiesbaden

Britain performed much better in rounds five and six of the open bridge championship. In round five, they defeated Finland 20-0 and in round six had a close match against an experienced team from The Netherlands which they lost 6-14.

The French team continued

in excellent form, defeating Spain 20-minus 3 and Israel 15-5 to move into a good lead. Italy lost 6-14 to Israel.

Round six: Switzerland 2, Romania 18; Britain 6, The Netherlands 14; Lebanon 20, Hungary 0; Turkey 10, Finland 10; Austria 3, Belgium 17; Italy 12, Norway 8; Luxembourg 0, Sweden 20; France 15, Israel 5; Denmark 17, Portugal 3; Yugoslavia 1, Poland 19; Ireland 6, Iceland 14; Germany 20, Spain minus 1.

Standings after six rounds: 1. France 104; 2. Poland 87; 3. Belgium 86; 4. Norway 86; 5. Germany 83; 6. Italy 81; 7. Denmark 70 and Lebanon 70; 8. Israel 69; 10. The Netherlands 61; 11. Hungary 60; 12. Romania 60; 13. Switzerland 59; 14. Austria 50; 15. Spain 51; 16. Ireland 49; 17. Britain 45; 18. Sweden 42; 19. Yugoslavia 37; 20. Turkey 36; 21. Portugal 35; 22. Finland 33; 23. Luxembourg 31; 24. Iceland 22.

The Post Office results '82-'83

A year of solid achievement.

SEE ORACLE PAGE 174

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Posts

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STOP PRESS

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Israeli pull-out decision shocks Lebanon and increases partition fear

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Israel's decision to withdraw its Army from the Chouf mountains east of Beirut has stunned the Lebanese Government and increased its fears that Lebanon is to be partitioned.

Although both President Gemayel and Mr Chafic Wazzan, the Prime Minister, are in Washington for talks with President Reagan, and although Israel's decision to pull back to the Awali river had been expected, Mr Gemayel reported by telephone to his officials in Beirut that he was shocked by the announcement from Jerusalem.

Mr Wazzan described it as "a new fait accompli". Of even more immediate concern to the Lebanese Government and to the troops of the multinational peace-keeping force in Beirut, is the increasing conflict between Phalangist and Druze militias in the Chouf. When Israel pulls out of the area, the Lebanese Army will have to move in, but several Druze leaders have expressed their fear that their people will be massacred by the Phalangists if the Army fails to control the area.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, for example, is insisting that there must be some kind of national reconciliation to prevent

Phalangist domination of the Chouf before the Army is permitted to enter the region.

French Foreign Legionaries are scheduled to accompany the Lebanese troops into the Chouf, possibly supported by armoured reconnaissance units of the British Army's small 97-strong contingent. British officers in plain clothes and driving civilian cars have already reconnoitred the western half of the mountains.

Under present contingency plans, US Marines will deploy down the coastal highway to the Awali river, just north of Sidon, where Israel may soon erect an electrified fence that would stretch across the country to the Barouk mountains. This would prove to be a *de facto* partition of Lebanon.

As if to emphasize the fearful promises that will face the Lebanese authorities in the Chouf, there was another fierce outbreak of fighting in the mountains during the morning. Druze militiamen fired Katyusha rockets and Grad missiles into east Beirut - the Christian sector of the capital - where several landed on the elevated highway that runs through the centre of the city, killing two men and a girl, aged seven years.

It was the Israeli Army which brought the Phalangist militia into the Chouf last summer as wartime allies. Since the autumn, Christian and Druze gunmen have carried on an orgy of kidnappings and murders. More than 400 men are believed to have been killed, many by having their throats slit after being tortured.

In the Chouf hill town of Alei yesterday, the Israelis arranged an exchange of prisoners, but the anarchy in the area was illustrated in grisly fashion when the Phalangists also turned over the remains of three kidnapped Druze - a collection of bones in blue plastic bags.

Israeli troops are expected to make a slow withdrawal from the area, handing over positions to the Lebanese on a daily basis. But the partial nature of the Israeli retreat is causing the deepest concern, not only to the Lebanese but to American diplomats in Beirut.

They believe that if the Israelis form a line along the Awali River, it will be impossible to persuade the Syrians to withdraw from the country. For many people in Lebanon, their nation has already shrunk to the size of a city state.

Gemayel consults US leaders

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon, who has predicted that all foreign forces will be out of his country very soon, yesterday began his three-day working visit here with private meetings with congressional leaders.

President Gemayel, who arrived here on Tuesday, is to meet Mr George Schultz, the Secretary of State, today and President Reagan tomorrow to discuss a range of ideas aimed at getting the full withdrawal of all the Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon.

His meetings here yesterday coincided with the Israeli Government's formal decision

to order redeployment of its 25,000 troops along a new defence line in southern Lebanon.

There was no immediate comment from the State Department on the Israeli announcement, which gave no details. Mr Schultz on Tuesday evening made clear to reporters that the United States remained committed to full withdrawal of all Syrian, Israeli and Palestinian forces from Lebanon; the extension of Lebanese sovereignty throughout its territory; a strong, stable Lebanese central government; and security for Israel's northern border.

Israel has said it will withdraw all its forces from

Lebanon only if Syrian and Palestinian forces are also pulled out. But Syria has strongly condemned the recent Israeli-Lebanese agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli troops.

Fears have been voiced in Beirut that Israeli redeployment could lead to the virtual partition of Lebanon between zones of Israeli and Syrian control. But Mr Elie Salem, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, who is accompanying President Gemayel, said last Sunday that there was no plan on behalf of either Syria or Israel to partition Lebanon or annex any part of it, and he expressed optimism that foreign forces would be withdrawn within months.

Kidnappers set midnight ultimatum

Rome (AP) - The alleged kidnappers of a Vatican employee's daughter threatened to kill her if the Turkish terrorist who shot the Pope was not freed by midnight last night.

The ultimatum came at almost the same time as the Pope offered a public prayer for the fourth time for 15-year-old Emanuela Orlandi, who disappeared on June 22 after leaving flute lessons in Rome.

An anonymous caller to the Italian news agency Ansa said the girl was still alive but that time was running out for the release of Mehmet Ali Agca, who is serving a life sentence for the shooting of the Pope in May 1981. He has dissociated himself from the girl's case, demanding that she be set free.

Ansa said the message was first telephoned to a Rome church by a man with a foreign accent and then was repeated to the news agency by another man who sounded Italian.



Ladislav Lis, a prominent Czechoslovakian human rights activist, who stands trial today at Ceska Lipa, northern Bohemia. A spokesman for the Charter '77 group, Mr Lis was arrested in January and charged with "incitement against the socialist system", which could mean three years' imprisonment.

Awarded a medal for his service in the anti-Nazi resistance, Mr Lis rose in the Communist Party to become Prague committee secretary under the Dubcek Government but was expelled for opposing the 1968 invasion.

EEC attaches strings

Threat to Britain's budget rebates

From Ian Murray, Brussels

France and the European Parliament yesterday both supported a plan which could put Britain's promised budget rebates from the EEC at risk.

Finance ministers from the Community then began a marathon session - likely to continue throughout today - to try to agree two budgets to help the EEC through its financial crisis.

Rebates due to Britain are a key element in the argument, and both parliament and France want to hold them hostage against promises for reform of the Community.

One rebate is due to be paid this year in compensation for the fact that Britain paid considerably more than had been estimated in contributions last year. It amounts to around £200m and was agreed by the Council of Ministers last October.

Before the money can be paid, however, the European Parliament has to approve it and the aim has been to include it in a special budget due to be put to members of the European Parliament in September. This special budget is necessary above all to raise the extra money needed to meet the huge bills for agriculture this year.

The Parliament yesterday suggested to finance ministers that this special budget should be cut in two, with necessary agricultural money being split off for quick agreement. This would leave all the other expenditures - including the British rebate - and £5m for urban renewal in Northern Ireland - to be agreed by the Parliament in December.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the British minister, responded

angrily to the idea. He told Mr Piet Dankert, the Parliament president, that splitting the money off in this way would be considered as a deliberate insult.

Parliament, he said, had misunderstood the situation and if there was any attempt to go back on the promise to pay the money this would be viewed with the utmost gravity in London.

December is also the date when Parliament is due to vote on the Community budget for 1984 and Britain is insisting that this should include the 450m promised to Mrs Thatcher as rebate during the European summit in Stuttgart last month.

Mr Dankert said yesterday, however, that Parliament would be ready to approve that money only if it was satisfied that the council had agreed firm guidelines for reform of the Community, including an undertaking to increase the amount of money available to the EEC budget.

The Parliamentary session is to take place immediately after EEC leaders meet in Athens at the next European summit and Mr Dankert made it very clear yesterday that Parliament would judge the results of that meeting before deciding on whether to release the rebate money.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the budget commissioner, told ministers that agricultural spending was now running 40 per cent higher than last year. If they failed to agree the special budget then there would not be enough money to pay for the wine, fruit, vegetable and oil seed crops.

Town wants missile site

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

A small Belgian commune has volunteered to be the site for deploying nuclear missiles. Aubry Vresse-sur-Semois in the Luxembourg province has decided to declare itself a "nuclearized town" and has asked the Belgian Government to consider it as the base for the country's 48 medium-range

cruise missiles, if it becomes necessary to deploy them.

The town made its offer because it fears that the Nato ammunition store on its territory is shortly to be closed down. This store provides around 160 precious jobs in the small commune and is an essential element



Beirut destruction: A 70-year-old woman clears rubble from her home after shelling by leftists, while a man helps his mother through the rocket-damaged Sarraha quarter, near the Foreign Ministry. Above them are portraits of President Amin Gemayel, his father and assassinated brother.

Russia acts on A-plant accident

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Pravda yesterday admitted that there had been an accident at a vital plant producing nuclear reactors and announced the formation of a new atomic energy safety commission.

The report said Mr Vladimir Dolgikh, a senior Soviet leader, had flown to Volgogradsk, not far from Rostov-on-Don, to investigate the situation and said the plant played an important part in the Soviet atomic energy programme but emphasised that the reactors and equipment it produced were not activated at the Volgogradsk site and were sent elsewhere for installation.

It was not likely that a nuclear accident involving radiation leaks had occurred at the Atomash plant, experts said. There had been the less than a mishap serious enough to warrant Politburo action and exposure in Pravda, which suggested that there may have been loss of life. The Atomash plant was due for completion this year but would now be delayed.

At its regular Thursday session last week, the Politburo criticized Atomash managers for "gross violations of state discipline". Mr Dolgikh, an alternate Politburo member and secretary for industrial affairs, told Volgogradsk officials that the plant would now both have to increase production and improve quality.

Pravda said the Atomash management had been censured for failing to keep the plant accident-free, and that urgent measures were being taken to put right "the consequences of mistakes".

The newspaper added that building regulations had been ignored and apartment blocks had been affected by the accident, but gave no further details.

The Soviet Union has an ambitious nuclear power programme designed to compensate for an anticipated drop in oil output at the end of the decade. Fourteen atomic plants are in operation and a further 15 are planned.

Soviet officials maintain that their nuclear installations are entirely safe, but the Volgogradsk incident suggests that some of the equipment is faulty or of poor quality, and that the Kremlin is anxious to avoid accidents in future.

WASHINGTON: United States navy ships have leaked radiation at least 37 times since they began using nuclear reactors, contaminating coastal and inland waters of Japan, Britain and the United States on more than a dozen occasions, according to a report released by a private research group. (Reuters reports).

British woman freed from California jail

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Miss Gail Jennings the British woman who was sent to prison for 16 months after she knocked down and killed a teenage California cyclist, will be freed from jail today seven months early.

Miss Jennings, aged 23, from Lymington, Hampshire, has agreed to voluntary deportation and will be taken by United States Immigration authorities straight from prison to the airport, where she will board an aircraft for London.

Mr Dennis Martell, an official at the California Institute for Women in Prison, California, said: "She has been a perfect prisoner. Under our new programme, she gets one day knocked off her prison sentence for every day she worked in jail. She worked first in the jail kitchen and then in a maintenance work crew."

Miss Jennings fled America after an accident that killed Gary Sheehan, aged 13, in Redondo Beach, California. After a long legal battle, she was extradited to face charges,

End of martial law brought nearer

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Polish changes worry church

Poland came a decisive step closer to lifting martial law yesterday by approving crucial changes in its constitution. But first signs emerged that the powerful Roman Catholic Church was uneasy with some of the special measures being introduced to replace martial law restrictions.

The Sejm, the Polish Parliament, yesterday approved four changes to the constitution, the most important of which introduces a "state of emergency" clause. This would empower the Government to act against widespread political unrest or some other internal crisis without having to resort to the cumbersome device of martial law.

A second change in the constitution guarantees private farmers - the overwhelming majority in the agricultural system - the right to own land. This is intended to improve their confidence and increase agricultural investment and eventually food sales to the state.

Two other changes approved yesterday provide a constitutional role for Prol - the loose government-steered grouping dedicated to fostering dialogue - and emphasize the workers' role in Polish society.

While these moves have proceeded relatively peacefully, the special package of temporary crisis measures and permanent amendments to existing laws is more controversial. According to Catholic sources in the Sejm, the Polish episcopate has sent a letter to the Præsidium of the Parliament complaining about certain particularly restrictive clauses.

The main church objections to two proposed changes. In the first place, according to the draft of the special measures, young Poles had "a common duty to defend Poland" - which in practice meant that all Poles eligible for conscription could be allocated to the militia or other armed units, such as the Zomo riot police, instead of to the army.

The Church and many intellectuals believe that the militia, which does not enjoy a fraction of the standing of the Army, should be staffed only by those who choose to do so.

Now, according to amendments circulating in the Sejm yesterday, the whole section on military service has been dropped.

The church was also unhappy about a proposed tightening of the so-called Work Shirkers Act,

which currently obliges all males unemployed for more than three months to accept officially allocated work or else face a system of fines and, eventually, compulsory labour. The proposed tightening would have permanently excluded any mention of fines.

Now, perhaps because of the church intervention, the exclusion of fines will be a temporary measure valid only until 1985, rather than a permanently fixed part of Polish law.

The last few days have seen numerous other cases of horse-trading between Communist and non-Communist deputies, with attempts being made to soften some of the impact of the special measures. Thus students can be expelled from university only if "important" Polish interests have been violated. The work "important" gives some degree of flexibility to both the authorities and the students.

A draft of the Amnesty Bill, to be considered today, confirms that most offenders under

martial law will be freed, as will those who are still being investigated but have not yet been charged. However, those charged under anti-state offences - the KOR dissidents and perhaps the Solidarity leadership as well - will stay in prison.

Those in the Solidarity underground or in exile abroad who give themselves up before October 31 this year will be amnestied, providing they give a full explanation of their activities.

Some non-martial law offences will also come under the terms of the amnesty, including those committed "for political reasons or in relation to strike or protest action". Women and those under 21 will be freed.

In some cases the general prosecutor can choose to drop charges against people serving more than three years and free them. This provides and escape clause whereby, if the Government finds it opportune, it can free political dissidents like the KOR group.



Man of iron: General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Poland's military ruler, impassive yesterday being interviewed by Miss Barbara Walters of ABC television.

Police claim Orly bomb confession

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Varadjan Garibidjian, aged 29, the presumed leader of the Armenian wing of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) in France, is said by the Government to have admitted responsibility for the terrorist bomb attack at Orly airport last Friday, in which six people died and 36 were injured. He is one of 11 Armenian activists being held by police.

The news, which was announced yesterday by M Max Gallo, the government spokesman, came as a surprise, as it had previously been thought that none of the terrorists directly involved in the Orly attack was among the 36 Armenians rounded up by the police in a dawn raid on Monday.

Mr Garibidjian's arrest is seen

as a big coup for the police and intelligence services. But the Government is being careful this time not to "blow its trumpet too loudly".

It had its fingers badly burnt last August with the affair of the three Irish people who were described by the Elysee Palace as important international terrorists. It now seems that police planted false evidence to secure the arrests.

There is some suspicion about the scale and swiftness of the police success in the latest affair. The arrest of more than 50 people within two days of the attack suggested that police investigations were already well under way before the attack occurred, and some observers are wondering whether the disaster could have been avoided if the police had acted sooner.

Of those originally arrested, 11, including three women, are still being held in police custody. They were seen by the examining magistrate, for the first time yesterday and are expected to be charged with murder, attempted murder, attack on public security, destruction by explosives, membership of a criminal organization, and illegal possession of arms and explosives.

LAUSANNE: The second Armenian World Conference, which opened yesterday, will try to offer the Armenian cause a "third option" besides apathy and violence, according to the Rev James Karnusian, the organizer (AFP reports).

Pretoria tightens controls on Lesotho border

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Large numbers of Basutos trying to enter South Africa from Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, were turned back yesterday by South African customs officials, in the first sign of the intensified border controls forecast last Friday by Mr P. W. Botha the South African Foreign Minister.

Mr Botha's warning came as tension rose after the Lesotho authorities had detained a black South African policeman and the South Africans had seized a member of the Lesotho Paramilitary Force, who had allegedly crossed illegally into South Africa.

Two British nationals were also deported from Lesotho last week after being accused of spying for an unnamed foreign power, by implication South Africa. Their mission was allegedly to discover the whereabouts of exiled African National Congress personnel in Lesotho.

Relations between Pretoria and Lesotho, a mountainous enclave of some 11,800 square miles surrounded by South Africa, have been very tense since the raid last December by South African commandos on alleged ANC "nests" in Maseru. More than 40 people were killed, 12 of them innocent Lesotho civilians.

Chief Leabua Jonathan, Lesotho's Prime Minister, has repeatedly stated that he harbours no ANC bases, but he also insists on Lesotho's right to provide a haven under the United Nations Charter for South African refugees, including ANC members.

Chief Jonathan has also upset the South Africans by a more assertively independent foreign policy. During a tour of communist countries earlier this year, he invited the Soviet Union, China, North Korea, Yugoslavia and Romania to open embassies in Maseru. At the same time diplomatic ties with Taiwan and South Korea were severed.

Germans speed up ban on lead in petrol

Bonn (AP) - After failing to bring about European agreement, the Cabinet of Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday endorsed plans to make unleaded petrol and catalytic converters compulsory in West Germany after January 1, 1986.

"The Chancellor does not want to act along the conveyor system, which has the slowest dictate the speed", a government spokesman said. This was an obvious reference to objections by European community countries like Italy and France, who oppose the move because they consider it too expensive for their motorists.

Industry sources estimate the catalytic converters will make petrol engine cars more expensive by about £250. Diesel engines do not need converters.

Soldiers given jail terms

Episkopi, Cyprus (AP) - Two British soldiers found guilty of beating another British serviceman to death with a wooden plank during a drunken midnight brawl were jailed for five and three years respectively by a special court.

Brian Francis Giff, aged 21, of Greenock, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and his comrade, Campbell McCabe, aged 18, of Port Glasgow, for three years. Both are privates in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Birdwatchers must stay

Istanbul (AP) - A judge has ordered two British birdwatchers, suspected of violating a restricted border area, to remain in Turkey pending a security investigation.

Mr Simon Albrecht of Cambridge and Dennis Buisson of Luton spent 18 days in jail in the small coastal town of Enz before their release on bail on June 24, on suspicion of trespassing and taking snapshots in a military zone.

South Africa's black stamp

Johannesburg (Reuters) - A black face appeared for the first time on a South African postage stamp yesterday.

One of a series of four stamps featuring South African sports shows two soccer players, one black and one white vying for the ball.

Insanity plea

Los Angeles (Reuters) - Marvin Panoos, aged 33, an unemployed clerk, pleaded not guilty due to insanity to the murder of actress Vicki Morgan, who has been named in a sex films case involving US political figures.

Dented goodwill

Brisbane (Reuters) - The US nuclear-powered cruiser Texas went to sea yesterday with a large dent in its stern after hitting a wharf. Unions had refused to man tugs in protest against the ship's goodwill visit to Brisbane.

Pilot's ordeal

Jakarta (Reuters) - Captain Quentin Fikie, 35-year-old Dutch pilot, survived for eight days adrift in a rubber boat in the Java Sea after he forced-landed his helicopter in the ocean, a spokesman for his company said.

Friars jailed

Vienna (AP) - A Czechoslovak court has sentenced two Franciscan friars to six and eight months in prison for violating restrictions on church activities. Austria's Roman Catholic news agency Kathpress reported.

Seguel freed

Santiago (Reuters) - Señor Rodolfo Seguel, leader of Chile's copper workers' union, the protest movement against the military Government of President Pinochet, has been freed on bail after more than a month in jail.

Volcano erupts

Jakarta (Reuters) - Colo volcano in eastern Indonesia erupted yesterday for the second time in three days and local officials said more than 4,000 people have been evacuated from Unaua Island.

Sri Lanka widens press censorship

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

The Government yesterday imposed local and foreign press censorship on all news about national security, law and order, essential supplies, and incitement to mutiny, riot or civil commotion.

This measure followed the introduction of censorship on matters relating to the universities and higher education after student unrest at Peradeniya University. The all-party conference on

the terrorist problem yesterday was attended by representatives of the ruling United National Party and the Ceylon Workers' Congress, a component of the present Government, and it was decided to postpone discussions and widen their scope to include all problems facing the Tamil minority.

The Tamil United Liberation Front, the Communist Party and the people's United Front had indicated their willingness

to attend broad-based discussions, but Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike's Freedom Party declined to attend any talks, and instead issued a statement listing various atrocities allegedly committed by the ruling party.

A government spokesman yesterday described the Freedom Party statement as baseless and "nothing more than a red herring".

THE ARTS

'The theatrical composer is now emerging as the equal if not the dominant partner of the design team': Irving Wardle explains

How music plays a starring part

As I have made ye one, lords, one remain:
So I grow stranger, you more honour gain.

That is Henry VIII tucking off his quarrelsome council, but it could equally be an RSC or National Theatre director addressing a meeting of production associates. Since the director achieved sovereignty of our classical stage, there has been much upward mobility among those who help to keep him enthroned. Designers of sets, costume and lighting may still be underpaid, but they are no longer undervalued; and, as the director's stock has risen, so they have been promoted from technicians into self-respecting fellow artists.

The one outsider has been the theatrical composer: a lowly figure plodding round his accustomed treadmill while his more favoured colleagues have been cutting a dash with computerized switchboards, visible lighting rigs and eye-catching new materials. If a director shifts *Measure for Measure* to the Caribbean, or *Much Ado to Imperial India*, it is through his designers that you get the message. Nobody has looked to the composer for that kind of insight. The quantity of music in any show might vary from a few songs and fanfares to the complete score Guy Woolfenden wrote for Trevor Nunn's 1976 *Comedy of Errors*, but in either case the role of the music was that of docile handmaiden.

Given the operatic inclinations of so many British directors, this makes a curiously belittling attitude to stage music; and, whether through a change of policy or the arrival of new talent, it now seems to be on the way out. Particularly at the RSC, the composer is now emerging as an equal if not dominant partner of the design team; and if this process continues we are going to see a major upheaval in the vocabulary of classical production.

I first became aware that something new was going on in 1978, with Peter Gill's Riverside productions of *The Cherry Orchard* and *The Changeling*, both with music by George Fenton and both played on an almost bare stage. Gill's designers (William Dudley and Liz da Costa) had reduced their settings to the choice of an appropriate texture - a pine back wall for Chekhov, a stone-lagged floor for Middleton - but, thanks to the music, the scenic impact was nothing short of sumptuous.

In *The Cherry Orchard* it expanded the action to the whole of the Ranevsky

house, with chains of dancers crossing the drawing-room into the adjoining rooms, the Jewish band mingling with the sound of offstage conversation and the click of billiard cues from behind the audience's backs.

Likewise, in *The Changeling*, a Renaissance palace sprang up from that bare stone floor at the thunderous summons of a Monteverdi-like brass consort. It was not the usual kind of fanfare. Mr Fenton's work differed in two ways from run-of-the-mill theatre music. It integrated composition with sound design; and, whenever music was given sole command of the stage, it rose to the challenge with symphonic self-assertiveness.

Since then, other composers have been claiming their theatrical rights, and the term "incidental music" is coming to sound as anomalous as "incidental scenery". Notable examples include Stephen Oliver's baroque opera treatment of *As You Like It* and Harrison Birtwistle's parallel score for the National Theatre's *Orestes*. In the present Stratford production of *A New Way to Pay Old Debts* Colin Self's music not only acts as a cheeky commentator but swaps saucy backchat with the company as a dramatic character in its own right.

Among those now active in the British theatre, the composer who comes closest to this ideal is Ilona Sekacz, a half-Polish Lancastrian who embarked on her career as a 12-year-old leader of the Blackpool Youth Orchestra and who now completes her first year at the RSC with three main-house shows - *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night* and *Henry VIII*.

Twelfth Night was the first I saw, and, if ever a production declared its purpose from the outset, it was in the great wave of melancholy sea music that engulfed the image of Orsino's love shrine. *Henry VIII* similarly took its character and tempo from her brightly aggressive pastiche-Weill, played by a casually dressed band who finally drifted on stage to join the loyally cheering Elizabethans. As for *Lear*, I doubt whether anyone who saw Adrian Noble's production will ever forget the infernal chorus that heralded the storm like a Miltonic pandemonium of lost souls.

For this effect, Miss Sekacz deployed a choir in the wings working under a "storm captain": a group of players in the bandbox (three levels down from the

stage, needless to say, at the Barbican); a junk percussion ensemble of scaffolding poles and kitchen sinks; and the taped storm itself, with every thunderclap created from distorted recordings of *Lear*, the Fool and Gloucester shouting or screaming into a grand piano with the damper pedal down. "I had the image," she says, "of formal court music disintegrating in the storm. It begins with formal chord structures. Then the brass starts melting."

Access to such resources is a novelty for Miss Sekacz. I first spotted her name over ten years ago at a fairy-tale show by the Black Theatre of Bristol: the music was storm itself, with every thunderclap created from distorted recordings of *Lear*, the Fool and Gloucester shouting or screaming into a grand piano with the damper pedal down. "I had the image," she says, "of formal court music disintegrating in the storm. It begins with formal chord structures. Then the brass starts melting."

She describes her approach to the job as "conceptual". "It's a question of finding a framework: getting a sound image for the play and staying faithful to it. I also have the sense that music is bigger than the characters, as if it's above, commenting and detached, like a cloud, or god, casting shadows over the stage."

When it comes down to detail, this can mean effects as elaborate as the *Lear* storm or the sophisticated electronics of the *Twelfth Night* sea music (created with the aid of a "Fairlight", a recording keyboard which will pick up any sound and endow it with pitch).

Alternatively it can mean Miss Sekacz doing her own whistling to zither accompaniment (as in Chichester's *A Particular for Me*) or getting non-music-reading actors to make music through her self-devised system of graphic notation. Either way, it would be hard to exaggerate the liberation and enrichment she has brought to the RSC in the past year.



"The babble of humanity" - part of Ilona Sekacz's sound-score for Strindberg's *Dream Play* in her self-devised notation

Jazz

Charting the unknown

VSOP II
Festival Hall

It is a Sugar Ray Leonard kind of jazz that they play, celebrating courage, athleticism and machismo but with skill and brains and a highly developed sense of beauty. It has crisp, solid punches and precise combinations executed with such speed that they deserve the slow-motion analysis of an action replay.

VSOP II revives the music of the Miles Davis Quintet of the middle 1960s. In this edition the original rhythm section, the most sophisticated such unit that jazz has ever produced, is joined by the trumpet and saxophones of the two Marsalis brothers, Wynton and Branford, who were aged respectively one and two years when, exactly two decades ago, Davis grouped behind him the pianist Herbie Hancock, the bassist Ron Carter and the drummer Tony Williams.

Wynton and Branford have a handle on the music, possessing technical means superior to those of Davis and the original quintet's saxophonist, Wayne Shorter. Some observers are worried by their blatant traditionalism, feeling that youngsters should be working on their own moves, but the Marsalis prove that there is mileage in this music still.

They played for 90 minutes on Tuesday night at an awesome level of invention, occasionally touching the summit. When Hancock fed grease-dipped funk chords behind the first chorus of Wynton's solo in "Well, You Needn't", the trumpeter's intuitive response provoked a hair-raising tension: the same tune found Branford at his best, moving away from the influences of Shorter and John Coltrane to produce a tenor saxophone passage which, in its architectural and orchestral philosophy, bore the stamp of an original.

Carter produced a lengthy solo in which time and pitch were dizzyingly and sometimes humorously warped; Hancock was marvellously supportive throughout; and Williams was outrageously superb, soloing in his preferred manner, against a piano and bass ostinato, with a glittering brilliance and the kind of integrity which permitted him at one point to change his mind and alter the course of the improvisation in mid-stroke. Drummers usually make up their minds before they set out: this one is part of a group which is still charting the unknown.

Richard Williams

Nureyev Festival

Coliseum

For the final week of this year's Nureyev Festival, he and Ballet Théâtre Français are presenting a varied four-part programme. The main feature is *Miss Julie*, in which Nureyev has never danced before in London. Birgit Cullberg's ballet has held the boards for more than 30 years, chiefly because of the chances it gives for strong characterization. The choreography is boldly expressive, not particularly subtle. Ture Rangström's

music is dire, old-fashioned and repetitive, and Sven Erixson's designs are mediocre. So the dancing had better be good - and it is.

Nureyev, more than anyone else I have seen as Jean, brings out the class differences that underlie the relationships. This valet can put on airs with the other servants, especially the girls who flock round him, but with Miss Julie, his manners range from servility through dumb insolence to a smug triumph. For the first part of the week he has had Eva Evdokimova as Miss Julie, providing a forceful contrast, in standing,

confidence and motivation, even if she has not developed the role as richly as seemed likely when she first tackled it a few years back.

Except for Angelito Lozano, miscast as the fiancé, the supporting cast maintains a good level, with Françoise Dubuc giving the bible-punching Kristin an apt priggish respectability.

Nureyev's other role in this programme is in the *Song of a Wayfarer* that Bejart made for him. He knows how to shape every nuance of this piece for maximum emotional effect, and makes the most of the sharp,

almost fierce quality of Patrick Armand in the other role to provide a sounding-board for his own performance. Although still in his teens, I believe, Armand offers a better foil to Nureyev in this work than anyone else except Anthony Dowell.

It was a miscalculation, however, to put both Nureyev's roles at the end of the programme on Tuesday, with BT's own two offerings one after the other to start the programme. That way, contrast was lost and the rhythm of the evening suffered. Best, I suspect, to have started with

Symphony in D and held *Songs without Words* until after *Wayfarer*: all the works would have benefited.

The French company do both their Dutch ballets well: in Jiri Kylian's comic work to Haydn, they bring off all the jokes with light-footed deftness, and they find a poetic stylization for Hans van Manen's Mendelssohn ballet. Pascale Moselmann brings a sensitive humour to both works. There are others I would praise if I could identify them, and the ensemble is nicely balanced.

John Percival

London debuts

Routine gestures

The Canadian tenor John Martens enterprisingly chose a programme slightly off the beaten track, offering songs by Finzi and Britten in addition to his Wolf and Schubert groups. However, these stylistically diverse works emerged with a curious sameness, for Mr Martens had a fairly narrow expressive and tonal range.

The voice itself is powerful and pleasing on the ear; it is well articulated and clearly focused. But in tackling something like Britten's *Seven Sonnets of Michelangelo* Mr Martens needs to find a more assertive character, and in Wolf's songs he should develop a keener sense of the music's sentiment and avoid routine vocal gestures. He seemed most at ease in Finzi's Thomas Hardy settings and in the slight, unproblematic but charming songs by the Winnipeg composer Chester Duncan, but in his concluding Schubert group he appeared tired and tense.

The pianist Michael Jones also chose an unusual programme, but this scarcely disguised the fact that he was not really on form for his London debut. His programme note raised high hopes, for it mentioned that he had made a special study of the works of Medtner, an entirely welcome nod to a composer who is unjustly neglected these days. But Mr Jones's account of the *Canzona matutina* and *Sonata tragica* from Op 39 was doggedly literal and, though marked by dedication and affection, had little flair or spontaneity.

His Fauré group was similarly wanting in individual interpretational thoughts, and although it was an interesting idea to play Casella's *A notte alta*, the performance was weakly characterized if clearly executed. However, he attacked Liszt's *Venezia e Napoli* with considerable verve, even though his technique did not always conquer the rapid, repeated notes of the "Tarantella" and a rigidity of rhythm failed to convey the spirit of the "Gondoliers". Indeed, in all the works he played, Mr Jones needed to think more carefully about his response to the music.

Geoffrey Norris

Television

Sentimental satire

The Beggar's Opera (Channel 4) has for some reason been moved into the mid-nineteenth century by the National Theatre, although I suppose it is a period that exerts a peculiar fascination for theatrical people after the success of *Nicholas Nickleby*. Perhaps the wardrobe department hired the old costumes.

John Gay's opera is in many ways a very harsh affair, and contains a thesaurus of abuse against women in particular: poor Polly Peachum was called a baggage, jade, slut, whore and hussy in the space of five minutes. And that was just the opinion of her parents. But this combination of rough demotic and pretty songs is always a potent one; this was a pastiche of the gutter, a satire filled with sentiment.

The production was especially arranged for Channel 4, and the great advantage of televised drama is the fact that the camera can move faster and more freely than an audience; we get something more subtle and fluid than a conventional stage performance. The only problem is that *The Beggar's Opera* itself is not a very subtle work - Gay had a certain amount of trouble getting characters on and off the stage, and when he is not being witty he is often banal. Videotape tended to emphasize such flaws, although it must have seemed a good idea, at the time to play

Macheath's putative hanging in slow motion.

The actors seemed to be enjoying themselves, though - but, then, that is what they are paid to do. Lots of cheap emotion was thrown across the stage in buckets, and even the jades and whores became drenched in it. Paul Jones played Macheath; he looked convincing, like a bull gone out to pasture, and his voice would have stopped a stagecoach dead in its tracks. June Watson was particularly good as Mrs Peachum.

In any case, everyone loves a good melodrama, especially when it can be vaguely associated with "literature". And *The Beggar's Opera* still has enough life to attract even a television audience. And who could forget the wonderful song towards the end of the play, when the melody of "Greensleeves" is matched to a sombre meditation on Tyburn Tree?

Peter Ackroyd

Every Inch a Lady

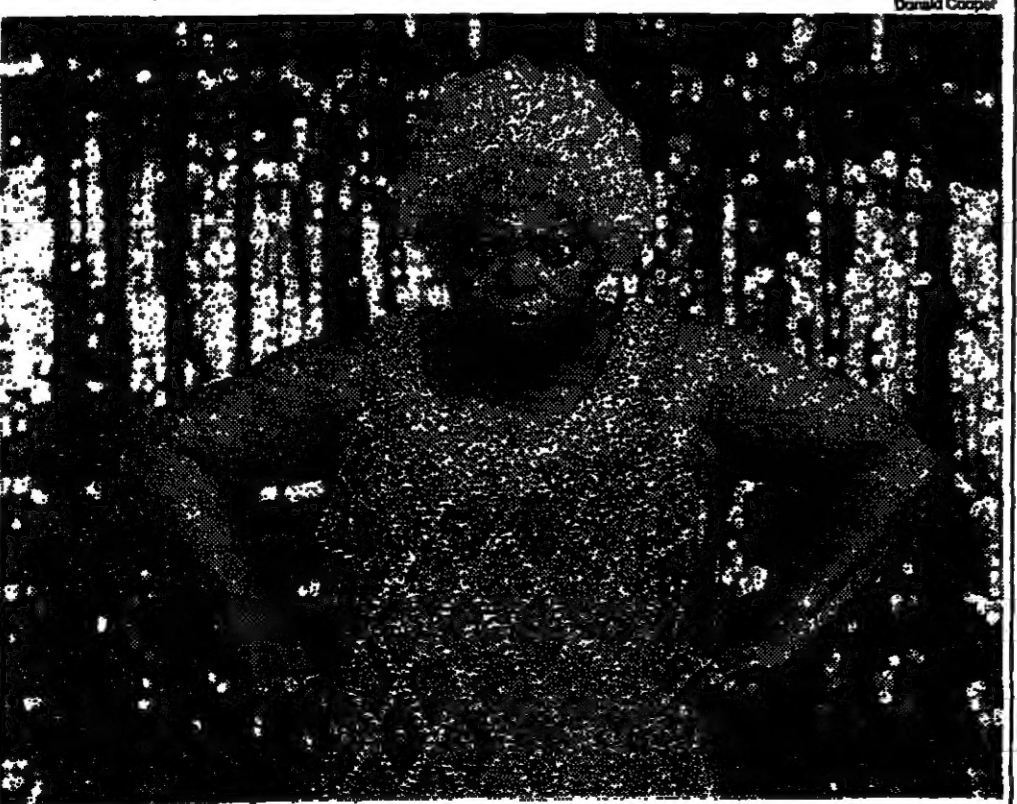
King's Head

Bertice Reading first trod these boards three years ago in *Pack up all your cares and move*, and that show's fans should lose no time in speeding along to view the sequel.

Admittedly, you get rather less for your money, as *Every Inch a Lady* offers fewer songs, fewer instrumentalists and fewer dresses. However, Miss Reading is prepared to clamber into a matronly tutu and engage Wayne Sleep to choreograph two minutes of the sugar plum fairy, and, as for the backing, nobody is going to feel short-changed in the presence of Jules Ruben, a superbly resourceful jazz pianist, who can cover prolonged exits, swap Astor Club reminiscences with the star and switch from the boudoir grand to a melodion without the smallest dislocation of melodic invention or cross-rhythms.

The only lukewarm customers are likely to be those, like me, who prefer encountering Miss Reading at long range as a singing actress rather than point-blank as a cabaret artist. It may have something to do with her gospel-singing physique, but the combination of those huge popping eyes, top notes to drown a brass section and hard-selling line on love gives the evening the quality of an evangelistic rally, where accusing looks are apt to turn on you if you fail to clap along.

With such capacity to overpower her spectators, Miss Reading only fitfully makes



The overpowering capacity of Bertice Reading

contact with them. When she does, they eat gratefully out of her hand. "Here we all work on the Mississippi," she growls, tugging a snagged microphone lead towards the upstage screen for her next costume change. But not much in the show has the ring of ad lib spontaneity, and - as in her last programme - she is still ordering people to

"get your foot off my stage". Her singing, as ever, is ecstatically whole-hearted, and at once savage and fastidiously precise: it is easy to believe her when she says it is her life. For my taste, there are too many pounding hymns to love in proportion to the songs where her sense of comedy and her sense of rhythm get a chance.

Irving Wardle

LSO/Kubelik

Barbican

It would be wrong to pretend that Mozart's church music, with a couple of exceptions, shows anything like the originality or the commitment of Haydn's: it falls into established forms, and serves its purpose faithfully, without fuss. But now and again something wonderful floats to the surface through the sea of convention; at the climax of Tuesday's splendid Mozart concert by the LSO, the *Idomeneo* overture, the choir's unearthly "Idomeneo" overture's coda but not that

superb sense of drama which can be conjured up in the C minor Mass or the Requiem. Kubelik's relationship with the LSO has clearly deepened over the past couple of weeks. There was some beautifully precise playing in the "Coronation" Mass - winding oboe solos linking the roudies of the Kyrie and careful, dry pizzicato in the Agnus Dei - and, in the first half, there were invigorating accounts of the *Magic Flute* Overture and the "Jupiter" Symphony.

I am not convinced that Mozart sounds best with an orchestra this big, but if it is to be played thus then Kubelik's approach, sweeping the phrases along but making sure that all manner of detail emerges, is ideal.

The "Jupiter" slow movement attained a massive, almost Brucknerian sense of mystery; the minuet - oddly pre-echoed in the "Hosanna" of the Mass - was exceptionally clean, and danced delightfully; the finale, though unforgettably stern of tone, was boldly done with loud fugal entries from the start and a magnificent contrapuntal climax through which the brass fanfares gradually broke like a thunderstorm dispelling the accumulated heat and tension.

Nicholas Kenyon

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SPECTRUM

Running through the red tape

Peter Snell of New Zealand was 26 when, in the Tokyo Olympics of 1964, he achieved the unique distinction in modern times of winning both 800 metres and 1500 metres gold medals - at the same age as Sebastian Coe now, on the eve of the AAA Championships this weekend and the imminent, inaugural World Championships in Helsinki next month. Through circumstances wholly outside his control and which are a discredit to the administration of British athletics, Coe has been forced to abandon the ambition of emulating Snell in Helsinki.

That he has done so says as much about him as the extraordinary catalogue of world records and medals on the track over the past four years. Calmly to walk away from your objective, even if only half of it, on a question of integrity, at the dress rehearsal stage after months of daily, tortured, anonymous training, requires a rare objectivity in one of the most subjective of all sports. At the summit, most sports are intensely selfish, almost by definition.

Yet it was when, amid the continuing controversy over the 1500 metres selection for Helsinki, Coe woke up this week to headlines such as "Coe reprieved" (*Daily Mail*) and "Selectors accused of bias" (*The Times*) that he decided his reputation took precedence over his ambition, and told the selectors unequivocally that his wish to be considered for both events was withdrawn.

He had already been selected for the 800, the distance at which he holds the world record but has so far frustratingly failed, not necessarily through any inherent racing frailty, to win a major title: in the European Championships of Prague ('78) and Athens ('82) and the Moscow Olympics ('80).

For this reason, the 800 has always been his priority in Helsinki, yet right up to the moment of his withdrawal on Tuesday night Coe and his coach, his father Peter, were confident of his capacity to challenge, as in Moscow, at both distances. As he said yesterday, having shocked both officials and public by his decision: "If I had not considered I was capable of running better than all the other contenders for the 1500 (Steve Ovett, Graham Williamson and Steve Cram) I would have pulled out earlier. It is a fact which most officials and journalists do not understand, that athletes performing at my level set higher standards for themselves than anybody else. I have been put in an impossible position by the public debate, by the impression created that I was receiving favours, and I feel morally obliged to deny myself the chance of the double, even though I honestly think that chance is no less than in Moscow."

It was that combination of perfectionism and mental resilience that allowed Coe to consider himself the probable winner of both distances in Moscow beforehand and, when he had misjudged a slow 800 to finish second, rebound to take the 1500. Yet he has been conscious that, in spite of two 800 victories in the Europa Cup and another in the 1981 World Cup and in spite of his blaze of four world records in the same year, making a total of eight, his failure in Athens last summer when plagued by injury and then illness, has left a justifiable doubt in the public mind about his racing ability. Although he takes cover publicly behind a largely deferential attitude, he is in fact as sensitive and proud of his performance as an Olympic star every time he goes on stage. He has delayed an original intention to move up to 5,000 metres this year solely to try to put the history books straight in the 800, at which his world record of 1 min 41.72 secs is a remarkable 15 metres faster than the 1977 record of Alberto Juantorena of Cuba, double Olympic winner at 400 and 800 in 1976.



The Times Profile: Sebastian Coe

For Coe personally, not to win the 800 in Helsinki will be akin to Lauda failing his civilian driving test, so the pressure from within was already considerable before the row developed over whether he, and also Ovett, should be supported by the British board in wishing to contest both events, given that Williamson and European champion Cram were also world class candidates for the restricted three places. The cynical will now be asking whether the decision to withdraw is in fact a cop-out, following his defeat in his last two 1500 races in Paris and at Crystal Palace last week, but that would be to misunderstand the background and the man.

Of course he was hurt by the defeats. The only protection for the superstar from the ferocious pressure of being under the public microscope - something of which Williamson and Cram as yet know almost nothing compared to Ovett and Coe - is the carapace of continual victory. Defeated, the champion is suddenly as vulnerable and disregarded as the leader of the wolf pack.

Yet Coe has openly faced the press in defeat, and last Friday himself projected the possibility of exclusion from the Helsinki 1500 by the selectors. It is true that the two defeats had temporarily undermined him, had made him wonder if he still retained the flowing, explosive finishing speed of 1980-81. However, he had been running against a background of a strained stomach muscle, unknown to anyone but Peter, and retarding his training, plus an ankle injury sustained jumping out of the way of a dog in training and requiring daily physiotherapy. These mitigating factors, never stressed in the selection issue, together with the knowledge that his training schedules, by comparison with which an actual race is a holiday, were more impressive than ever, suggested to the Coes that their bid for both titles was not only justifiable but realistic.

As one of the selection committee has said to me last weekend: "If either

Coe or Ovett is capable of doubling up, it would be irresponsible not to allow it", while Coe has said that "without overstatement, I'm reasonably confident, even though this has to be measured against an assessment that the standard in Helsinki will be higher than Moscow". His ambition was to win the race, not just to win selection, though Peter had conceded that "it's always possible an athlete can have gone back after the kind of hiatus suffered last summer". The complication for father and son is that, compared with 1980 or 1981, the preparation this year is late: Coe is at present still engaged upon improving sessions in training that were completed in June in previous years, now aiming for a single peak.

'None of them considered I was certain to finish in front of any of the other three candidates.'

What is also different is that he has joined Walker and others before him, in that he is the man to beat. "Every time you step on the track, someone else in the field is regarding it as their race of the year". Yet even before the selection fiasco, Coe had stated "Whatever I feel about the selectors' ultimate decision is unimportant - I have accepted it if I'm excluded and not waste mental energy questioning it, though I would want to look at the result in Helsinki afterwards and ask if they had been correct".

The British Board is a typically well-intentioned but amorphous sports body, loaded with vested interests, financial pressures and, traditionally, lack of real understanding and intelli-

gent communication with the athletes over whom it presides. In 1964 the Olympic team nearly went on strike, team managers have been known to wish athletes good luck half an hour after they finished competing, and in 1979, Coe was almost refused permission to go to the Oslo meeting at which he broke his first world record.

It is one of the less desirable anomalies of the present controversy that the team manager, who has openly lobbied the press against the principal of doubling up and also advised the selectors against it, is Andy Norman, long time adviser of Ovett. Even a neutral observer might conclude that Ovett would be content to see Coe excluded from the 1500.

What was deplorable about the weekend meeting was the premature announcement to the press agencies by the general secretary, Nigel Cooper, who sometimes gives the unfortunate impression of someone marking examination papers while referring to the wrong set of questions, of the names for the 1500 (Ovett, Williamson and Cram), which was subsequently withdrawn in an embarrassed flurry in mid-afternoon on Sunday. There is conflicting evidence of the sequence of events: some selectors say the "no doubling up" principle was on the table overnight, others that the decision was final. One of them told me: "The muddle is appalling, but doesn't surprise me. I believe Coe is capable of running both events, but we debated whether it was our duty to protect athletes from their own ambitions in world championships where the standards and the pressures will be enormous."

It is the fact that seemingly not one of the eight selectors was initially prepared to back him for a place in both races that most hurt Coe's pride, more than it becoming public knowledge. As he reflects, it means that "the bottom line was that none of them considered I was certain to finish in front of any of the other three candidates". One of the selectors has



SEBASTIAN COE

born London September 29 1956

- 1977 Three Commonwealth and one UK records at 800m
- 1978 Two UK and one Commonwealth record at 800m
- August 31: European Championships, bronze medal, 800m
- 1979 Three world records in 41 days: July, 3 Oslo, 800m; July, 17 Oslo, mile, 1500m; August, 15 Zurich, 1000m
- 1980 July: world record 1000m; July: Moscow Olympics silver medal in 800m (gold: Steve Ovett); gold medal in 1500m, pictured above (silver: Ovett)
- 31 February: world record, 800m; June: world record, 1000m; July: world record, 1500m; August 19: world record, mile; August 28: world record, mile
- September 4: World Cup, Rome, winner, 800m
- 82 shared world record, 800m relay; August: European Championships, silver medal, 800m
- 83 world indoor record, 800m

admitted to me they may have been hiding behind the matter of principle on doubling up, but believes they should have stood by their decision. Nevertheless, on Tuesday afternoon Coe finally decided he was "not going to be accused any more of bitching up other people's racing plans". If he could run the 1500 last Friday, why did Cram, the loudest protestor, choose instead to run in meaningless 800 metres?

It is possible, of course, that Coe - and Ovett if he still attempts both, though he has yet to achieve the 800 qualifying time - was biting off more than he could chew. The level of opposition in Helsinki will be formidable and, more ominously, comparatively untested in match-racing conditions. Joaquim Cruz, a young Brazilian, crushed by Coe in the 1981 World Cup in Rome, has run within a metre of Coe's world-best 800 time this year of 1:43.80, while Said Aouita, a French-sponsored Moroccan who has been training at altitude in Mexico, shot into prominence a few weeks ago.

Coe's present retreat from public slanging could prove with hindsight to have been prudent as well as dignified, even if not motivated as some will continue to suspect by self-doubt. His task is now simplified. He will run Saturday's invitation mile to show he is as good as ever, and whatever anyone does in the Helsinki 1500, we may be sure that a week or so later he will go to Zurich of Rome and attempt to rupture the world record at that distance - the only one of four between 800 and a mile which he does not at present hold. Ovett does. In the most fundamental of human sports, Coe is still undecided which he regards as the more rewarding exhilaration - medals or records - as the compensation for upwards of 300 days a year devotional dedication. As he has said: "The real motivation now, far more than medals or records, is the satisfaction of the continuing experiment with Peter, the endless quest for improvement. Perfection is always just around the corner". It is that quest which enabled him this week to step aside from a nasty domestic squabble of others' making.

David Miller

moreover... Miles Kington

His job is writing people off

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Number 11: A man who kills off characters in long-running serials on television

"It's a funny thing, but a scriptwriter who can handle divorce, punch-ups, betrayal, depression or anything bad like that often finds it hard to deal with death. So when a character has to be written out for one reason or another, they send for me, and I write the scene or episode. I sometimes feel like the public hangman."

He looks very well on it. George Danson has been killing off people now for 15 years, armed only with a typewriter, and he has enjoyed every minute of it. Sometimes it's because the actor involved has had an unfortunate court case, sometimes it's because he has died and very often it's simply because he wants to leave the series, but whatever it is, he has to be bumped off somehow.

"Usually I don't know the character involved very well, so he or she doesn't mean much to me, whereas to the resident scriptwriter it's a close friend. Not to mention a cushy billet. I remember one character in a television series who had to be got rid of because the actress wanted to emigrate - a real Tartar, a boarding-house landlady who gave everyone a hard time and was consequently the most popular person in the show."

"Well, the permanent scriptwriter refused to kill her off - he really loved her, because it's much more fun writing slugging-off dialogue than anything else and when he heard that I was being called in, he went mental. He started turning in scripts in which all the other characters were meeting a horrible end. Couldn't use them, of course. We even had a meeting one night in which somebody seriously suggested bumping off the scriptwriter. Reality and fiction tend to blur after a while."

"What? Oh, the actress solved everything by having a fatal heart attack. Though I sometimes wonder if the TV company wasn't behind it."

What's the best way of disposing of unwanted characters?

"Off-stage, unfortunately. Car crash or accident abroad. The other characters hear the news, stagger around a bit. 'My God, how awful, oh no I can't believe it! Same as Greek tragedy basically, except the Greeks did go on about it. More than we do. Personally, I'd prefer to have a few on-screen deaths - spectacular collapse at party, harrowing suicide, savaged to death by Rod Hull and Ennu, that sort of thing - but the public can't take it. Usually the actor isn't available by then, anyway."

"What I'd really like to do is a few of the deaths that happen in real life, blokes found dangling from Blackfriars Bridge, people struck by lightning on clear days and so on, but I can't. Know why? Because people wouldn't believe it, that's why. Funny old thing, death."

Isn't his job peculiarly modern and sadly in tune with our times? "No way. It's one of the oldest jobs in the world. I bet Shakespeare got someone in to deal with Falstaff, because he couldn't bear to do it himself. And think of Sherlock Holmes, who not only had to be written out but written back in again, due to popular demand. I sometimes have to do that, make characters emigrate to America or run off with someone, in case they're needed back later. Like in the Bible."

Pardon? "Well, this may sound irreverent, but the most famous rewrite case of all time is none other than Jesus, who was written out of history on Friday and written back in again on Monday. I'm not saying it didn't happen. In fact, I'm pretty certain it did happen. Coming back again because you're the Son of God has probably got to be true, because no scriptwriter could get away with making that up. If I were called in to get rid of someone in *Crossroads*, for example, I'd think twice about saying he was the Messiah and was going to be called away on other business."

Yes, quiet. Has George got any unfulfilled ambitions in the writing-out field?

"I'd like to have been called in by the Labour Party to help ease out Michael Foot. What a botch they made of that."

Loophole for Greenham offenders

Scenes of young Greenham Common peace women being bundled off to prison are at an end - at least for those under 21 years of age. By dint of a little-publicized loophole in the Criminal Justice Act 1982, magistrates have lost their power to penalize those under 21 who refuse to be bound over to be of good behaviour or to keep the peace. To date, women refusing to

"enter into a recognizance" to be bound over have suffered imprisonment, but under the new Act, imprisonment for young offenders is replaced by "youth custody". And a recent issue of the *Justice of the Peace* journal notes that youth custody for "binding over" does not seem to be within the provisions of the Act.

Delinquency disease

Delinquent activity is a normal part of adolescence but most is of a trivial, even if criminal, nature, and youngsters usually grow out of it, according to the latest Home Office research on juvenile crime.

Mr Roger Tarling, of the department's research and planning unit, says research findings indicate that "delinquency should not generally be seen as a serious disease affecting a few who need to be removed from society to undergo major treatment". It is prevalent among young boys but despite "a significant minority" of persistent offenders, most stop offending in early adulthood when they get a job, or a girlfriend.

The problem is widespread. In 1981, 31 per cent of all offenders dealt with were juveniles, with the highest incidence among 15-year-olds. The rate is much higher among boys, with 12 per cent, compared with 2 per cent of girls, convicted of indictable offences. The appropriate penalty, Mr Tarling concludes, is some kind of community service order, or other alternative to custody. Statistics show that institutional treatment is ineffective in the long-term as a means of prevention. A sample 633

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: LAW



per cent of young offenders sentenced by the courts were reconvicted within six years. The highest rate of reconviction - 83 per cent - was among those who received custodial sentences.

DIY house sales

While the Law Society does battle with non-qualified conveyancers, Joseph Bradshaw, guru of "do-it-yourself" conveyancing, has brought out his own guide to marketing one's house. "Be your own estate agent and save up to £1,000 or more in fees", he invites houseowners. Mr Bradshaw is the arch-debunker of professional mystique. "Anyone", he says, "can set up shop as an estate agent, and why not? An unqualified agent can be as good as, and even better at

Sma' wee claims

A "small claims" court procedure whereby individuals can bring an action, without a solicitor, to recover a sum of less than £500 in England and Wales or £300 in Northern Ireland is well established. But Scotland has no such procedure.

A pilot project on Dundee, however, has already proved highly successful. According to findings of the Scottish Office's central research unit, consumers whose cases were dealt with by an experimental

small claims court, found the process far more satisfactory than the existing "summary cause" procedure.

Costs were limited to £25, so that legal representation was discouraged. Litigants found it simple to put their case to the Sheriff (judge) and both parties felt the disputes had been fairly sorted out. By contrast, under existing procedure for small claims, people had problems putting their cases or answering solicitors' questions. The Scottish Consumer Council is calling for a similar small claims procedure to be introduced in Scotland generally.

Divorce and access

The Government's planned introduction of new divorce laws and the House of Lords' recent ruling on "ousting" spouses from the matrimonial home, have resulted in family law featuring prominently in the news.

Vigorous debate continues, particularly over the issue of access to children. An article in *The Magistrate* collated the latest arguments for not granting right of access to the non-custodial parent, usually the father. These arguments suggested that access would cause difficulties, the child would suffer confusion of loyalty, and insecurity.

By contrast, an article in the *Journal of Social Welfare Law* by Martin Richards lists eight benefits that access bestows, according to research at the Child Care Development Group in Cambridge and at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies in Oxford.

Among them, is the child's opportunity for practice in managing many relationships; the "power-

ful symbolism" provided by the continuity of the other parent figure; the chance to "work through" the fear and anger the child may feel towards both parents; relief for the custodial parent stress in being the sole parent and the presence of a second parent if disaster strikes the first.

A dead marriage, Martin Richards concludes, cannot be set aside as if it had never happened. Courts, it should at all stages encourage a "norm of continued contact" between both parents and the child.

Libel reforms

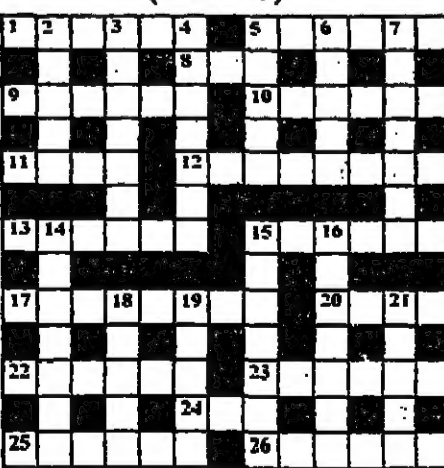
There is scathing criticism of both the Press Council and the law of libel as adequate means of redress for victims of press inaccuracies in the newly published *People against the Press* by Geoffrey Robertson, barrister and author. His indictment is bound to increase pressure for reform of both, and to reawaken the debate over a statutory right of reply.

He calls for the scrapping of libel laws as far as they apply to the press - except in the case of deliberate and malicious publication of material known to be false - and the taking over of the Press Council's role in dealing with complaints by a statutory press ombudsman, with power to order newspapers to publish replies or corrections.

More likely to gain ground however is the Law Society's long-held wish to see legal aid extended to libel: defamation remains the only branch of common law not now covered by legal aid. The society is expected to renew pressure for this reform in the next parliamentary session.

Frances Gibb

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 108)



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Consider (6) | 2 Reddish dye (5) |
| 3 Government (6) | 3 Poisonous (7) |
| 4 Tiller (3) | 4 Onion-like |
| 5 Oxygen lack (6) | 5 vegetable (7) |
| 6 Compelling (6) | 6 Summarize (5) |
| 7 Light ring (4) | 7 Leg of mutton (5) |
| 8 Mouth colouring (6) | 8 One-eyed lens (7) |
| 9 Foundation garment (6) | 9 Cornucopia (7) |
| 10 Great quantities (6) | 10 Globule (7) |
| 11 Chief (3) | 11 Beginning (5) |
| 12 Greek spirit (4) | 12 Blither (5) |
| 13 Medical practitioner (6) | 13 Automation (5) |
| 14 Self confidence (6) | |
| 15 Printing fluid (3) | |
| 16 Secondary road (6) | |
| 17 Necessitate (6) | |
- SOLUTION TO No 107
ACROSS: 1 Depict 4 Menage 7 Sulk 8 Inscribe 9 Hard line 12 Tip 15 Embars 16 Strain 17 Fox 19 Esoteric 24 Millpond 25 Dime 26 Brogue 27 Runner
DOWN: 1 Dash 2 Pillar box 3 Twirl 4 Mason 5 Aura 6 Rabbi 10 Dirge 11 Extra 12 Tradition 13 Pine 14 Reef 18 Osier 20 Chore 21 Tulor 22 Flog 23 Weir

BOOKS

Ghost writer

M. R. James
An Informal Portrait
By Michael Cox

(Oxford, £14.50)

M. R. James was, first of all, for that is how he is known and admired by the largest number of people, just about the best writer of ghost stories of the last hundred years. His only serious competitor in this line is Walter de la Mare, who was a better, altogether more serious writer, as M. R. James would probably not have disputed; but a little too indefinite and whimsical. In de la Mare something of a little funny is going on, or so it might seem, but perhaps it is only an effect of the lobster or the hot afternoon sun. In James there really is a yellowish face looking at one through the gap in the curtain, with tatters of blackened flesh on it and long, greasy strands of something very like hair.

James was also an exceedingly distinguished and encyclopaedically informed scholar of an old-fashioned antiquarian kind, with an enormous fund of detailed and accurate knowledge of the manuscript contents of cathedral libraries, the inscriptions on and significance of stained glass, the apocryphal books of the New Testament and other topics of this generally fascinating but uninteresting nature, what Francis Bacon called "the delicate learning", in other words, the accumulation of intriguing odds and ends. This occupation provided James with props and settings for his stories of an appropriately haunting nature: coddies and tomb-inscriptions, abbey and ancient colleges.

His personal attraction was plainly very great. It is evident from the agreeable levity of his stories and is the consistent theme of all recollections of him. As fellow and Provost of King's and Provost of Eton his door seems to have been open to all callers, he was unceasingly involved in readings of plays and stories and comparable species of domestic high kinks, his letters abound with jokes, he remained entirely untouched by self-importance, large, clumsy, pallid, ill-dressed, such a man should perhaps stick to what the subject thought of as being of most importance, as in James's case, did R. W. Pfaff in his excellent and very well-written book, principally concerned with James's scholarly work, in 1980.

Michael Cox's "informal portrait" is rather dull. It contains little that is not found in Pfaff, expresses it with less felicity and has hardly anything to say about the scholarly work of the subject. It may be that he shares the mild disapproval of M. R. James's old Eton tutor, Luxmoore (a regular Christmas visitor at King's, all the same): *Last night Monty James read us a new Christmas story of the most bloodcurdling character, after which those played animal grab who did mind and having their clothes torn to pieces and their hands nailed.* The cleverness and the gaiety of them all is wonderful and yet if it goes on like this in term time - and it does - where is the strenuous life, and search for truth and knowledge that one looks for at College?

What was to turn out something of a misfortune was his friendship from prep school days with A. C. Benson. That powerful, tormented, not altogether benevolent figure went

everywhere James went and committed a great many thoughts about him to his gigantic diary, now open to public inspection and magnificently used as the basis of David Newsome's Benson biography *On The Edge of Paradise*. In this copious source of comment, James's lack of critical intelligence and of serious interest in anything but minute oddments of scholarship are repeatedly deplored. Benson also, quite unjustifiably, attacks James for insouciant insensitivity about the war. Recurrent expressions of contempt for James's inadequacies as an administrator seem more than outbursts of envy about James's effortless acquisition of positions of dignity and emolument which Benson would have liked for himself. Benson should not be blamed too much. His diaries were too vast to be intended for anything but private emotional relief. To see them as expressing his considered views is comparable to recording the noises made by an operatic tenor in the bath.

There was, as Michael Cox observes, usually a measure of truth in what Benson wrote, all the same. James knew a great deal, but the knowledge involved was susceptible only of being assembled, not put to any use. James, if not unfeeling by any means, was an escapist, hastening to consciously antiquated Eton from a King's increasingly dominated by the "ungodly", i.e. people like Keynes. There were some odd moments in his early years: two episodes of bullying at school, an extraordinary obsession while at Eton with Queen Victoria, involving an attempt to dedicate a translation from the Ethiopic to her, a rather menacing version of those dreams many seem to have about giving the Queen Mother, wearing gum boots, a cup of tea.

Despite the age in which it was passed, M. R. James's was a life in sunshine, shadowed only by the deaths of friends. Apart from that he knew some annoyances, but never failure. His own recollections, *Eton and King's*, are full of jokes and devices of self-introspection. A biographer of such a man should perhaps stick to what the subject thought of as being of most importance, as in James's case, did R. W. Pfaff in his excellent and very well-written book, principally concerned with James's scholarly work, in 1980.

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Anthony Quinton



Massacre of the Innocents by Raphael, a pen and chalk drawing of nude and violent action, from Raphael by Roger Jones and Nicholas Penny (Yale, £15.95). This handsome book, published for the quinqucentenary of Raphael's birth, discusses the life and works of the greatest Renaissance artist, the organization of his studio, the market he supplied, the patrons he served, and the status he enjoyed. He drew this circa 1511, when he was experimenting with scenes of violent movement and passion, for an engraving by Marcantonio Raimondi.

Serious travelling

The Intelligent Traveller's Guide to Historic Britain
By Philip A. Crowl

(Sidgwick & Jackson, £12.95)

No Intelligent Traveller is going to tote this unillustrated 800 page tome round Britain. Scots will be shocked to find that Britain does not include Scotland - a small type exclusion is, it is true, printed on the title page.

Having said this it is admittedly an astonishing work, which took Philip A. Crowl ten years to write. An American history lecturer with strong leanings towards all things naval and military, he calls the book a labour of love. Lord Norwich in a foreword says it is difficult to know which is the greater, the love or the labour.

In his introduction Mr Crowl says several times that his book is intended for the Intelligent Traveller. Truly Intelligent Travellers, he says will note the countryside, the pleasing harmonies of British voices and the infinite variety of Britain. In between comes the serious sightseeing.

The body of the book is an easy flowing Narrative History in ten chapters, taking the reader from the First Ice Age to 1945. It neatly knits together, mostly in bold type, characters, monuments and places, such as Harold Hadrada; the *Joigny* at Chysauster; the premonstratensian Bayham Abbey; the Tower of London, where the young prince was "done in"; and the Tank Museum at Bovington.

Do American tourists really want to know all this? Most Britons will consider themselves unusually well-informed

if they know half of it, and although fairly conscious of their past will be happy to be reminded of what they have forgotten, and told about what they never knew.

The second part of the book is a gazetteer, well referenced to Ordnance Survey maps, of buildings, museums, gardens et al. (as Mr Crowl would say), grouped by counties and described in notes mostly repeated from the heavy type in the main text. Playing the game of important omissions one doesn't find much. Mr Crowl is very thorough, but Brunel's Clifton Suspension Bridge (described by Pevsner as "one of the noblest of English suspension bridges"), and Liverpool Anglican Cathedral by Giles Gilbert Scott are a couple of clangers.

Mr Crowl's three star classification is unsatisfactory; why even AA hotels have up to five. In his assessment, attractiveness, convenience, amenities, and the efficiency of "custodial staff" are the criteria. This results in a very mixed bag. For example, Canterbury cathedral (among others), Chertwell, Manchester Town Hall and Dove Cottage are all awarded three stars.

His critical censure is reserved almost exclusively for St Pancras Station Hotel, which he finds a red brick monster, and "frankly ugly by any standard". On the other hand he gives one of his rare accolades to the garden of Haddon Hall, "gorgeous - a lush display of floral plenitude".

Incidentally only one Lutyns building is mentioned, Castle Drogo (one star), Basil Spence's Coventry Cathedral (three stars) is described "as very modern" and its architect's name is not mentioned.

Gontran Goulden

Home sweet Home

Letters to a Grandson
By Lord Home

(Collins, £6.95)

A close relationship between an author of a book and his reviewer, though unusual, could be beneficial in the sense that any praise bestowed upon one brother by another needs to be well-merited, while any fall from grace is likely to be ruthlessly exposed.

Moreover, a close knowledge of the life and character of any public figure who commits himself to paper should enable one to judge, with accuracy, whether he has practised what he preaches. In this case, there is no doubt that whatever Mr Home has passed on, clearly and concisely, to a very lucky grandson, the political convictions that sustained him through a long and useful life, and what is most appealing, and indeed, inspiring - is the tolerance that he displays towards opposing points of view.

For instance, as regards the Oxford Union Debate before the war and CND today, he has no doubt that their philosophy is a false doctrine, but he never, for one moment, questions their sincerity.

In short, he never sneers at an opponent, never tub-thumps, never waxes the flag around his head and galleys into battle with his vision blinded by it. All is calm, dispassionate and analytical, including his assessment of the problems posed by Russia.

From the years spent dealing with that sensitive and prickly nation, he has learned that patience, firmness and outspokenness pay dividends. He does not - which I find refreshing - trot out that old hackneyed phrase about the Russian wish

to dominate the world (God help the nation if there ever has been one, which nurses the ambition to attain so trouble some a prize). He seems aware that Russia pushes her luck for strategic reasons (with, perhaps, the minor bonus of exporting communism), probing weaknesses but, at the same time, ready to mark time and even withdraw (as with Cuba), when the choice is between state-manship and suicide. "It will", he writes, in the key sentence in this book, "pay the democracies to play the game of co-existence long."

In other words, his message, as I read it, is "put up your sword, by all means but make sure it is still in the scabbard. And make sure, as well, that everybody knows it - friend and foe alike."

To leave his main theme this book is laced with brief, illuminating anecdotes about his fellow statesmen in this century from Edward Grey, through Chamberlain and Churchill, to Gromyko, which lighten almost every page. My favourite concerns the return of Archibald Sinclair and Herbert Samuel to the Liberal Party from the national government (whose policy on free trade they found suspect) in which the process of extracting them from the latter is described as "like pulling kittens by their tails from a jug of cream."

To sum up, in this short book, brimful with humanity and humour, strength and tolerance, one finds a man of eighty writing sense (which is a problem to most people half his age) and, at the same time, illustrating history, with a touch as light as it is telling. I confess to wishing, most sincerely, that he would review my plays.

William Douglas-Home

I eat, ergo I am

The British at Table 1940-1980
By Christopher Driver

(Chatto & Windus, £8.95)

1940 having been the year I started eating, or anyway imbibing the Allen & Hanbury's in lieu of mother's milk, (a pity, by the way, that Mr Driver, by confining his survey to mature sorts of eater, of age to be at table, at least in a high chair, bypasses the most heated gastronomic confrontation of his period, the bottle v. breastfeeding controversy), I felt at moments practically dizzy with nostalgia while reading this informative and entertaining book.

It is a memory lane book, with a vengeance, whether you came in with Woolton Pie or quiche lorraine. From the wartime National Loaf and post-war snook piquante to the French country casseroles of the 1950s to what Christopher Driver, who writes cleverly and neatly, calls the "recondite puddings" of the English folk cookery revival of the seventies, for many of us everything we ever ate is here.

And so is every restaurant, it seems, we ever sat in. The fifties coffee bars, The Apicella restaurants, white-tiled and jungle-pleated, which seem quite ridiculously sixties in their ambience, full of girls who looked like - and may well have been - Jean Shrimpton, toying with the giant prawns and tagliatelli con tartufi. Cranks Wholefood Restaurants, which so well sum up the seventies, with those daunting bowls of bean-sprouts and the sound of earnest munching. Eighties nouvelle cuisine restaurants in which assidues de crudites - one carrot, one small radish, and a pretty curl of celery - are sold at vast expense to the minimalist gourmets (resembling Churchill's question to Cripps, a vegetarian, "Are you about to eat that or have you finished?"). Christopher Driver, editor of the *Good Food Guide* from 1969 to 1982, is both expert and opinionated about restaurants, and his comments on the nouvelle cuisine cult in England, alias the neo-classic style, are cruelly dismissive.

The first part of this book is gastronomic history, the second part analysis and comment. One of the main points, of which the neo-classic invasion is a pertinent example, is the alacrity with which the British have latched onto the culinary styles of other nations. Driver traces this back to the early nineteenth century when French formal cooking was imported into England, implanting in Victorian bourgeois households the insidious idea that everyday cooking, "fuel food", is one thing and "good food", food for entertaining, quite another: the lunatic division which has done a lot of damage to the way we in Britain regard food and how we cook it.

In our desperate pursuit of show-off food and fancy, achieved mainly by most brutal short-cut methods (for British cooks as well as being snobs are also indolent), we have lost our knack with things we were once actually good at, like the real

English breakfast and the proper cup of tea.

Our receptive attitude to the cuisines of all nations, the Chinese, for example, Indian and Middle Eastern, in the post-war period - a phenomenon described in fascinating detail by Christopher Driver who points out that it has been a largely one-way traffic, in spite of our delicious attempts to export Lymewood - has meant we have become a culinary Tower of Babel. The more spoilt we are for choice the less distinct the flavours. My own son's daily menu at his Sheffield comprehensive puts before him pizza which tastes like the moussaka which tastes like the not unlike the sweet-and-sour and curry. All served with chips and beans and followed by profiteroles. Profiteroles! Profiteroles! At 16p a portion. A pudding for school dinner which although extremely meaningful in terms of ideology, bringing archetypal rich man's food to the mass market, from the gastronomic viewpoint counts as foolhardy indeed.

Is it really worthwhile eating? At times, particularly when confronted by the dreaded TVF, one wonders. But Christopher Driver has a light hand with his statistics (as doubtless with his poetry: he writes as a born cook) and as well as providing us with dreadful tabulations of the incidence of flavour blur and inroads of convenience foods, and worse, in British kitchens he collates the curiously idiosyncratic eating patterns, enormous variations by region and by class, which are still to some extent a saving grace in Britain. For instance, the confused and deliciously confusing variations both in timing of the national evening meal and the way it is referred to - tea? high tea? dinner? supper? - which means it is still possible, in accepting invitations to British homes in different regions or milieus, to be offered either much more or much less food than you expected. Is it better to risk getting there replete or empty? A social dilemma almost everyone knows well.

The peculiarities and mysteries of eating Christopher Driver finds a constant source of interest. He has through the years acquired a reputation, mainly put about perhaps by those whose ill-cooked vegetables and banal dessert trolleys he has rightly castigated, as a man cast in a mould which is rather ungenial. This is not the impression this book gives me at all. What I most like about it is his endless curiosity about our individual and private ways of eating, the human predilections which escape the market surveys, such as people who insist on spreading marmalade on kippers.

In identifying this immense cloud of unknowing - what exactly people do behind the scenes and why they like it - he reminds us successfully, and I think endearingly, that other people's eating remains endlessly bewildering, like other people's sex.

Fiona MacCarthy

The photographs in English Stone Building by Alec Clifton-Taylor and A. S. Ireson reviewed last week were taken by Peter Crawley.

SELF-DEFENCE FOR WOMEN

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ROBERT HALE

Aisha
By Ahdaf Soueif

(Cape, £7.50)

Brilliant Creatures

By Clive James

(Cape, £7.95)

A Trembling Upon Rome
By Richard Condon

(Michael Joseph, £8.95)

Ahdaf Soueif is a fresh new voice among the old pros this week, her first book coinciding nicely with the spate of oriental carrels flooding London this summer. Like her heroine Aisha she comes from an academic Egyptian family, as much at home in Western European culture as in the traditions of her own country, clearly perceiving the delights and the drawbacks of both. In these stories - for this is less a novel than a collection of incidents and characters, linked, some times tenuously, to Aisha, times more tightly, to her memory to draw on, from the memories and markets of Alexandria to a Putney girls' comprehensive, from the chatter of Cairo society ladies to the reminiscences of a peasant bride.

The theme that runs through is one of common experience that turns into tradition, and the deep-rooted feelings that draw the controlled and liberated woman back to reluctant contact with primitive conventions and desires. There is lively, lucid writing here, vivid description, and sharply observed dialogue. Miss Soueif has a particularly sensitive feeling for the relationship between adult and child, whether the latter is listening to old tales or moving through a world of unexplained and ineluctable regulations. As with Lisa St Aubin de Teran, I was

Fiction

Cast a Kohled eye

never quite sure whether I was in the realm of fiction or fact, and I took forever to the time when this stylish writer takes a bolder leap into the world of the free imagination.

Perhaps this is what Clive James thinks he has done. In his self-conscious introduction he certainly denies that *Brilliant Creatures* is a roman-a-clef, but his ingenueness is unconvincing, as well as taking half the fun out of the identification game. He does himself no service by this preface, for alas, he lacks the high good humour he admires in Pevsner as well as in himself. It took me a long time to get into the book at all. The prose is surprisingly turgid, laden with so many allusions and references that it was like swimming in treacle.

But persevere; once it gets going it's quite a jolly romp. Mr James has an endearingly sentimental streak that makes him write admirably on the trials of being in love, and you can always check your score on the allusions by consulting the notes at the back. (I thought I did rather well, being, I hope, sufficiently informed to do the book, not merely as one of the "increasing number of implacable female critics".) The brilliant creatures of the title live in a world of lost innocence and vast incomes; publishers, writers, media men and consultants, they belong to a charmed circle where everyone knows everybody else's business and thinks it the most important thing in life. It's all marvelously clever. Clive James doesn't miss a trick. The index (in a novel?) is a veritable catalogue of fashionable 1980s table talk. It's funny, too. Enjoy. But a diet of *Brilliant Creatures* and *The Ploughman's Lunch* - which it much resembles, while mercifully not taking itself so seriously - is enough to send me scurrying happily back to suburbia.

Isabel Raphael

Against Infinity
By Gregory Benford

(Gollancz, £7.95)

The comparison is inevitable. Here's young Manuel, working with his father on Jupiter's moon of Ganymede, and growing up and into an urgent need to kill the Aleph, a stupendous, ever-changing creature which intermittently erupts into human lives. As a whole of a tale it's cut as near the mythic bone as any Moby Dick. The poignancy achieved here, however, is in the climax when Manuel returns to find that death is not the living end - or the end of living - and that, as a container of all universal laws, the Aleph is indestructible.

Despite a falter or two in the last stretch, this is the novel that moves Mr Benford from the ranks of the simply readable into those of the SF-remarkable. The interplay between character, scientific speculation and allegory is accomplished with graceful dexterity, the happening legend born along on a narrative as sure-footed as those engineered animals on whom Manuel depends.

It is a book whose imagery is as precise as it is economical, a book to welcome because its craft is so finely wrought as to become art. Its story of obsessive pursuit is one that still says something about ourselves. If you only read one SF book this year, make it this one.

Space 8, chosen by Richard Davis (*Hutchinson*, £5.95). In his introduction Mr Davis modestly implies the limitation of his book's circulation to "us terrestrials". Aliens, though, hell well enjoy these stories for the young which constantly reveal humans as being discomforted by events outside

Science Fiction

Kill the Aleph

their control. For the reviewer, the stories are of very unequal quality, the best by far being Bob Shaw's *Light Of Other Days*, in which time-stored "slow glass" contains a sad emotional truth.

Isaac Asimov Presents The Best SF Of The 19th Century, edited by Isaac Asimov, Charles G. Waugh and Martin Greenberg (Gollancz, £9.95). Takes three to tango out this sort of compilation these days, it seems. Still, some marvellous stories from a time when tradition was under pressure from the new technologies of both mind and matter. The obvious masters are here, from Poe to Jack London and I am indebted for the inclusion of a French writer new to me, J.-H. Rosny aîné, whose story of prehistoric mankind pondering invading clones has just the right amount of humour and awe.

Hello America, by J. G. Ballard (*Triad/Granada*, £1.50). The desert sand has moved into New York and survivors contemplate their lives. Enter Mr Ballard's worlds and you become trapped in a seance difficult to break out of, so powerful is his method.

Helliconia Spring, by Brian Aldiss (*Triad/Granada*, £1.95). Part one of a Helliconia trilogy, a most impressive and credible introductory invention. As a world-wielder Mr Aldiss is up there among the best.

Tom Hutchinson

... the Times Educational Supplement ... a thoroughly admirable publication; essential reading for the serious and ambitious school-teacher one of the advantages enjoyed by an eighty-page educational magazine is the wealth of literary talent hanging around our colleges and universities waiting to write the odd freelance article. Which is why the TES is able to cover so much edict ground. (Roy Hattersley, Punch March 16 1983).

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THE TIMES DIARY

Eyes have it

The new photo identification passes issued to MPs show up the freshers who are unused to being in the spotlight. Pictured with their eyes firmly closed against the glare are Tories Peter Brabine, Jeremy Hanley, Jonathan Sayed and Labour's Tony Banks. The syndrome is not confined to new boys: Labour's Margaret Beckett, returned from Derby South, is on the blink as well. Caught with eyes half-closed are Conservatives Piers Merchant, Andrew Hunter, Michael Woodcock, Liberal Michael Meadowcroft and Labour's Dagenham reared, Bryan Gould. It makes it look as if they are already in danger of going to sleep on the job.

Passing show

Parked on a yellow line outside Cannon Row police station yesterday was a black Austin taxi cab. It had no number plate at back or front, no hackney carriage licence, and no tax disc. Inside, the five identification plates were blank. Five traffic wardens walked past it with complete indifference.

● You get what you pay for on Swissair. In economy the signs say: "Fasten seat belts" in first class: "Please fasten seat belts."

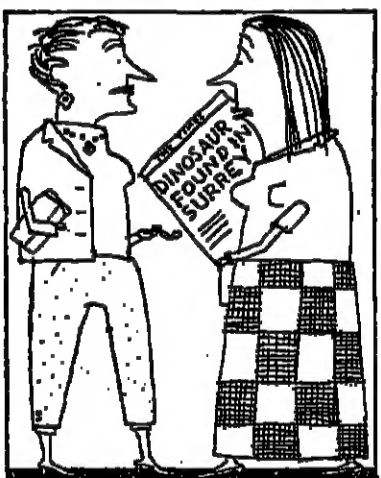
Home comforts

I have heard that conditions are rough on Clydebank, but the district council is keen to tidy up. Here is a clause from their new leases issued to council tenants under the Tenant's Rights Etc. (Scotland) Act 1980:

"Coal and fuel shall be stored in the space or cellar provided for the purpose and in no other place whatsoever in the dwellinghouse; and the bath shall be used as a bath for the purpose of bathing only; and if provided, the perambulator space shall be used only for the purpose of storage, or location of a perambulator and for no other purpose whatsoever; and the said space for coal and fuel, the said bath and the said perambulator space shall be used only for the purpose attributed to them and specified in this Condition and for no other purpose or purposes whatsoever. And it is understood that the interpretation of this Condition shall be within the sole discretion of the landlord."

In other words, the new tenants' rights mean they have to give up the local customs of keeping the baby in the bunker, washing in the pram, and coal in the bath.

BARRY FANTONI



Funny, I thought Gerald's MP lived in Sussex

Gilbertian

HMS *Pinfare*, at the Festival Hall from July 26, is part of the Greater London Council's summer plans for the South Bank. Raymond Gubby, the promoter, agreed to put on the show only if the GLC guaranteed him against losses. It is now clear that the show cannot expect to succeed without advertising in London's evening paper, *The Standard*. The GLC has had an advertising boycott on *The Standard* since it published a Jak cartoon about the Irish. Despite urgent Mayday signals from *Pinfare*, the GLC leadership has decided that the boycott must continue. I expect HMS *Pinfare* to be lost with all hands.

Nameless

Contestants on last week's *Brain of Britain* quiz were asked to name the editor of *The Times*. William Rees-Mogg, Duke, Hussy and Charles Wintour were suggested. The fourth competitor had, no idea. PHS, a modest supporter of the old *Times* principle of anonymity, is rather pleased with the trend.

Shaw thriller

Colin Shaw, who leaves the Independent Broadcasting Authority this autumn to run the programme companies' planning secretariat, has a thriller serial ready to go out on Radio 4 later this year. Its title, ironically, is *A Story with Pictures*. Shaw also admits that he had a recurring nightmare while in office as IBA's director of television. It was that he would discover that two ITV companies were simultaneously doing *War and Peace* only when Germans ran out of furs.

I am a Sagittarian. Yesterday the *Daily Express* said I was "faring best of all zodiac types". The *Daily Mirror* promised "exciting new possibilities and people" entering my life. The *Sun* forecast a "new life-time chance". The *Daily Mail* confirmed "the picture is optimistic for very more expensive ambitions" and the *Daily Star* held out the prospect of "a surprise at work that could mean a boost to your income". So how come I had such an awful day?

PHS

Local democracy on the rocks?

The House of Commons will today be debating proposals by the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr George Younger, to reduce the rates fixed by four Scottish councils, because he considers their planned spending to be "excessive and unreasonable". Lothian Regional Council would be required to cut its rate by 6p, Glasgow District Council by 3p, and Kirkcaldy and Stirling Districts by 2p each.

The Scottish Secretary of State's action has implications outside Scotland. Mr Younger has the power to set aside the rate levy fixed by the councils four and a half months ago and to substitute his own lower rate levy. The Government is indicating that it is considering introducing similar provisions (though their form may be different) in England and Wales. A White Paper is expected soon.

A number of authorities had selective action taken against them in 1981-82 but only one, Renfrew, chose to refund cash to the ratepayers. The others allowed "claw-back" of grant to the Exchequer - much to the surprise of the Secretary of State, who promptly prepared fresh legislation.

This is the legislation which is being used for the first time this year and it allows the Secretary of State to set aside a council's rate and to replace it with a lower rate.

Irrespective of whether or not the spending proposed by the four councils is adequate, reasonable or excessive - the yardsticks laid down in Scottish law - in

The Scottish Secretary's plans for council spending have implications south of the border, argues Noel Hepworth

relation to their needs and circumstances, some aspects of the position are particularly worrying.

There is, of course, a superficial appeal in any provision which seeks to curb large rates increases. Yet such a provision requires judgments by central departments on the circumstances and budget decisions of individual local authorities, and the problem is how can such remote judgments be made with any degree of fairness.

The Scottish exercise this year appears to have been very rough and ready and there are numerous glaring anomalies. Among the "closely comparable" authorities against whose spending Glasgow's is measured, is Cumbernauld which, on the face of it, has as much in common with Glasgow as the Isle of Skye has with the Isle of Dogs.

The Secretary of State's report to Parliament is in each case based mainly on his initial letter to the individual authorities, which had five appendices of figures. Most of the figures in the letter to Glasgow are wrong because of a £4m error which is freely acknowledged in a covering note by the

Secretary of State - but none of his wrong figures have been corrected.

The figures that are shown in the various reports are by no means obvious evidence of "excessive and unreasonable" spending. Lothian's rates are seen to have risen by 109 per cent over the period quoted, 1978/79 to 1983/84, while the average for all Scottish regions was 139 per cent. For all four authorities their increase in spending between 1982/83 and 1983/84 is significantly less than the average increase of their respective groups of so-called "closely comparable" authorities.

These examples are disturbing because they show that the phrase "excessive and unreasonable" is clearly capable of wide interpretation. They appear to confirm the view that rule of thumb judgments taken in Edinburgh or Whitehall, no matter what sophisticated statistical techniques they encompass, must inevitably be less well informed than local decisions taken locally.

If the most important decision which a local authority makes in the year - the determination of its budget - can be set aside either in the fashion described here or by some system of rate capping, then not only is local democracy dangerously damaged, but also that basic principle of public finance, that he who fixes the tax should also make the expenditure decisions and collect the tax, is grievously undermined.

The author is Director, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Nicholas Ashford on John Glenn's improving campaign to become president

Into orbit as the prime challenger to Reagan

Washington
Is John Glenn the "right stuff" to become the next US president? Do Americans really want to replace an actor with an astronaut? Is there more to Glenn than just a chest-full of Second World War and Korean War medals and a reputation for superhuman cool - the man whose pulse rate hardly fluctuates when his space capsule reentered the Earth's atmosphere in 1962?

These are the questions Americans are beginning to ask as the 62-year-old senator from Ohio steadily narrows the gap between himself and his chief rival, former Vice-President Walter Mondale. Though six candidates are seeking the Democratic nomination to run for president next year, the field has already narrowed to Glenn versus Mondale. A bet on Glenn at this stage could pay off, because he looks increasingly like becoming the odds-on favourite in the months ahead.

A trip on the campaign trail at this early stage is a good way of sizing up a candidate, of testing his popular appeal at a time when only the politicians are really concerned about next year's election. We went to Iowa, a corn-growing, pig-raising state which is classic "mid-America", and to Milwaukee, an attractive industrial city on Lake Michigan which is suffering most of the same problems that have blighted other mid-western cities.

Despite its small population and lack of an industrial base, Iowa plays a key role in the election process as the caucuses to be held there next January will be the first significant political tests of election year. All candidates try to cultivate Iowa as though it were their home constituency.

The most striking thing about Glenn is his name. Everybody knows him. He's John Glenn the spaceman. He does not need to spend millions of dollars on television advertising simply to enable people to recognize him. His name has already been given to countless streets, schools, colleges and even "Glennburgers". The crowds want to see him, shake his hand and ask for his autograph, which he liberally dispenses on scraps of paper, the inside of hats, plaster casts around broken limbs and even on carefully preserved copies of *Life* magazine recording his epic space voyage as the first American to orbit the earth.

"Hi, John", yell voices from the crowd. Glenn constantly smiling

Rome
The most catastrophic readings of the Christian Democratic defeat in last month's general election come from Roman Catholic commentators, who are nevertheless confused as to whether what really went was the party's invincibility or Catholicism as a political force.

All that used to be said about Italian politics is now no longer true, says Father Gianni Beger, Bozzone, one of the best known priests who regularly write on political affairs. The party, he believes, now faces an uncertain future and will have to move in a form of no-man's land. He did not think the Christian Democrats were capable of halting the decline, which had brought them down from 38 per cent to 32 per cent of the vote, and they could find themselves supported by only a quarter of the electorate.

The Italian Church and Italian Catholicism, according to Father Bartolomeo Sorge, Editor of the Jesuit periodical *Civiltà Cattolica*, had not shown the courage to seek a new role for Catholicism in an Italy which has changed.

Some of the party's most dramatic losses were in areas regarded as heavily Catholic. For the first time in a general election, the party no longer has its absolute majority in the Senate. It lost 10 per cent of the votes in such traditional Catholic strongholds as Vicenza and Padua.

Such figures must have come as a shock to the leadership. One of the reasons why Italian Christian Democracy has survived as Italy's



Spaceman on a campaign walk: polls now give Glenn some edge over Mondale, his rival for Democratic nomination

waves or offers a double thumbs-up. Occasionally he breaks away to shake a few hands - although reluctantly, the result of a sense of reserve bred by his military background.

Not everyone who sees him remembers exactly who he is. As he was strolling along the banks of the Mississippi in Clinton, a body-builder approaches him and says "Hi John. I just want to ask you one question. What did you feel like when you set foot on the moon?" Glenn patiently explains that he only went into orbit and the first moon walk was seven years later.

The visible Glenn is a major asset to his candidacy, the audible Glenn less so. He is just not in the same league as President Reagan when it comes to making set speeches. But he is getting better and has improved dramatically since the fiasco of his keynote address to the 1976 Democratic convention.

At this stage in the race he has one basic speech which he gives over and over again (with minor variations). The eyes of this staff start glazing over as they hear for the umpteenth time his quotation from Ralph Waldo Emerson or his one joke about how his wife Annie ticked him off for thinking about himself as a great man.

It's not a bad speech, general enough to appeal to almost any audience and interspersed with patriotic exhortations designed to produce a smattering of applause. His theme is the need for leadership towards the future, not towards the past. "We must not roll back the clock... we need to set goals for the future, rather than harking back to times of yore." He attacks Reagan's economic programme as being "borrow, borrow, spend, spend", reminding audiences that the present administration has added \$716,000m to the national debt and raised the budget deficit to \$200,000m.

When the voters lose faith in the party

by Peter Nichols

principal political force since the last war was the support of the church. Whether the Church's active presence in the country's political life will be seen by historians as a favourable factor in Italy's development is doubtful. But certainly in the immediate postwar period there was a sense of emergency because of the fear of communism, an attitude actively encouraged by Pope Pius XII.

He was responsible for prescribing the threat of ex-communication in 1949 for those who supported communism. As an indication of how closely woven were Italian political events and the papacy in those days, two examples suffice, both involving Alcide de Gasperi, the first and greatest of Christian Democrat prime ministers.

In 1952 de Gasperi had to fight against a papal plan to impose an alliance between the Christian Democrats and the extreme neo-fascist right in local elections in Rome as a response to the communist challenge. Yet, earlier, when Italy's membership of Nato was about to be debated, de Gasperi felt driven to do something against his own character. He had to

He touches briefly on the damage the Reagan Administration has caused to civil rights, women's rights, education; he bemoans research cuts which he compares to "eating the seedcorn of the future"; he takes occasional swipes at the MX missile and Reagan's anti-Soviet obsession. He then invariably ends with an exhortation to his audience to join his "crusade" for a better future, a better America. The applause is always polite, sometimes enthusiastic, never rapturous.

Glenn's weakness is for questions. It is then that his reputation as an "earnest bore" begins to show. A question about acid rain produces a 15-minute answer. In another response he gets bogged down in a story about a trip he made to New Guinea, the point of which never really becomes apparent.

Unlike Reagan, Glenn can show that he has mastered his homework. His military and space background has given him a taste for detail and a retentive mind.

Many American commentators have dated him for being dull. George Will, a conservative columnist, likened Glenn to porridge - "nourishing but unexciting". Another remarked that if Glenn ever gave a fireside chat he would put the fire out.

However, this cynicism is not widely shared by his audiences. "I was totally impressed, I'll certainly vote for him", said Bill Guerin, a member of the Wisconsin Police Union, after hearing him speak in Milwaukee. "He's genuine. He speaks from the heart. He can instill the old pioneer spirit back into this country", said Les Schweitz, a motor union official.

Glenn's immediate problems are organizational. Mondale, a thorough professional, has been quietly building up his organization virtually since he went down with President Carter in 1980. He knows which of the power blocks within the

Democratic Party need cultivating and where the best sources of funds are. He is nearly assured of endorsement from the American Federation of Labour-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and will pick up most black support. By contrast, Glenn, who started late, seems almost amateurish. But he is learning fast and, more importantly at this stage, is showing he is as adept as anyone in getting supporters to dig deep into their pockets.

But perhaps Glenn's strongest asset is the widely held perception that he, more than any other candidate, offers the best prospect of defeating Reagan. Recent polls have shown that Democrats and Republicans alike believe that Reagan is more vulnerable to a challenge by Glenn than by Mondale. "If they want anyone but Reagan, they have to choose Glenn", commented John Schmitt, president of the AFL-CIO in Wisconsin.

Why is he viewed in this way? Partly because of his national hero image, he has actually lived the sort of life that Reagan aspires to portray in films. Partly because he has a proven record of success - as a marine pilot, as an astronaut, as a businessman (he has amassed a \$6m fortune) and as a politician (in 1980 he greatly increased his own Senate majority while Carter was losing in Ohio).

Partly, too, because he has broad appeal. He seems to embody the solid middle-of-the-road values which Americans are beginning to respect again. Glenn even looks a bit like Eisenhower, who is widely regarded as a good if somewhat dull president. He has none of Reagan's theatricality or Carter's evangelism. It is inconceivable that he would purloin anybody else's briefing book. He is a dead centre, straight-backed, red, white and blue American. As American, in fact, as apple pie.

replied: "I doubt that he even knows our address."

Wherever one's loyalties or prejudices lay, this celestial blessing gave the party a special authority. Gradually that apparently immovable power has suffered erosion. It was unable in the 1970s to prevent legislation introducing divorce and abortion, and lost a referendum on each aimed at abrogating the laws. In the anti-abortion campaign, Pope John Paul II personally entered the battle and emerged defeated. But it was not until the elections last month that the party's actual political authority was damaged.

Many Christian Democrats believe, or want to believe, that they were simply caught at an awkward moment, because their new leadership had not had time to settle in before parliament was dissolved.

They maintain that they will win back their losses as soon as there is another election, and can hardly wait for the next dissolution. They argue that they have to adjust to a Vatican which is no longer interested in them to the extent it was under the Italian Popes.

Ronald Butt

After the GLC, a Greek lesson

The Conservative members of the Greater London Council are less than enthusiastic about Mrs Thatcher's commitment to abolish it. This does not mean that they object to the replacement of the GLC by some better arrangement for representing London. It was not only to avoid rocking the Tory boat that they refrained from protest when the abolition commitment was announced during the election campaign. The Conservative members of the GLC recognize that the GLC, in its current shape, represents an intolerable abuse of the London public by its sheer waste of money. But they are not (except for a very small majority) willingly giving their consent for it to be scrapped and replaced by nothing else of a representative sort.

For one thing, they see Mrs Thatcher's government as more centralist in practice than any of its predecessors, and this worries them. Centralism has been forced on the Prime Minister and her colleagues by their desperate need to get an over-spending national economy under control. Since the Government contributes over half the money disbursed by local authorities which were then able to use their financial power to defy the central economic policy, it was inevitably driven to place local authorities under much closer discipline.

All this is appreciated, yet it sticks in the throats of Conservatives who have devoted much of their lives to (unpaid) local politics that their party should cease to encourage the local responsibility which has always been a Tory tradition. Centralism and planning attract socialists but for Conservatives, ending the representative GLC and transferring its London-wide powers (for, say, transport, the fire brigades or roads) to boards nominated by the boroughs is distinctly unattractive. Yet that is the direction of the Government's present thinking.

Such a scheme, in the view of the present GLC Tory consensus, would not only leave a gaping hole in the concept of local responsibility, it would probably carry the risk of more costly operations as well.

The case for scrapping the GLC in its present form existed long before Ken Livingstone turned it into a personal socialist fiefdom. The bureaucratic wastefulness of a local authority which had already lost many of its most important functions to the borough (not to mention the operation of the unaccountable and unrepresentative Iles which is responsible for education in the inner area of Greater London) demanded the reform of government in the capital city.

Mr Livingstone has strengthened the case by his behaviour. He has exploited for political ends the GLC's statutory power to spend up to the product of a 2p rate on anything of benefit to the community or to some Londoners, (which is equivalent to a total discretionary spending power of £39m a year). More than £5m has been spent on such causes as the Gay Arts Sub-Group Festival Bares Against the Bomb; Lesbian Line Campaign against Racist Laws; Fantasy Factory Video Ltd; Glaxo Democratico; GB Black Media Workers Association; Gay London Police Monitoring Group and the Karl Marx centenary.

In other words, Mr Livingstone

uses the GLC stage to strut on in the manner of a national politician. He seeks to govern and virtually to legislate on policies affecting not only London but the whole country. He is as inimical to national democracy as the over-mighty baronial subjects were to a medieval king. But is this a reason for abolishing the GLC without representative replacement? I think not.

The function of local politics is to administer the local services in a manner acceptable to the local electorate which can then call the local politicians to account at election times. Local voters have a greater incentive to do so if at least part of the money spent is raised by local taxes, whether by rates or some other method.

If, moreover, a Greater London authority of some sort did not exist to equalize between the richer and poorer boroughs through the rates (or if there were no rating or equivalent system) the function of equalizing could fall to a centralizing authority. Tory GLC members fear that a Labour government could and would tax the richer boroughs and the City punitively.

Whether we have local taxes

through rates or some other system, local authorities which can spend but not raise money are unsatisfactorily representative. In any case, however, the way the present system works carries little genuine representation on local issues. Local authorities are usually elected by between 30 and 40 per cent of the local electorate casting votes largely, not on local questions but against the national government of the day, and on the national issue of the moment. They are certainly not a judgment on how well the local transport or road system works.

I have previously suggested that for education we should move to elected local education authorities (on the Isle of Man model) which would enable interested people to vote on what was actually proposed for education and not simply for a party in general. Thus Labour voters of Islington could decide whether they want Iles-type education or the more Highbury Grove-type education, whose abolition by Iles has repeatedly been resisted by local opinion (mostly Labour). They could vote for representatives on the education authority without having to forsake their general party loyalty.

Why should we not have the same system for the management of the London regional transport authority, for the fire brigades, for roads, recreation and for housing? Greater London could be (for the management of those functions which could not easily be devolved to the boroughs) administered under the surveillance of elected authorities. People would be more willing to vote specifically on the local issues that move them.

Some would say this would mean too many elections, but we do live in the age of the computer. Why not use it to move towards the participatory democracy of the Greek city state? Yes, the GLC should go, but not without a representative replacement that can act as well as talk. Greater London could provide a pilot scheme of representative functional management of the things that concern all Londoners, which could be a model for the country as a whole. The idea is at least worth a thought.

Jonathan Sale

No sweets, please, we're grandchildren

There was something very special about last Tuesday. Not quite a day in a million but certainly one in a hundred. I phoned my mother. We speak so rarely that when she phones us and I answer, she assumes it's a wrong number.

"Hello", I said when she picked up the receiver. No messing around with endearments or pleasantries, you note, not on a peak-time trunk call. "I'd like to make it clear", I went on, "that the children never have sweets, apart from sweetie night, parties, or when I'm not looking - and always under strict supervision."

"It's Jonathan, isn't it?" It didn't take her long to identify the mystery voice.

"It is", I admitted. "I'm glad we agree on that, anyway. But to continue: no eating between meals, even sneak previews of the roast potato. And especially not those biscuits covered with lumps of sugar as big as your hand."

"Why are you telling me all this?" she asked. "It doesn't hurt to establish exactly what the state of play is", I replied. "And talking of play, the interval between supper and bath-time has been reduced to fifteen minutes, twenty-four good behaviour."

"I know", she cried, "you're coming to stay! That'll be lovely."

"I hope so", I replied. "Just so long as the rules and regulations are well understood and the conditions clearly laid down, preferably witnessed by two neighbours of a mature age."

"Older than you, you mean?" I could probably manage that by the weekend. Would you like a printed menu? There was a bit of an edge to her voice.

"Just typewritten", I conceded. "And another thing. They're on a special milk-free diet, so none of your usual custard."

"But they like my custard!" They do. That's why we're bringing a tin of special milk-substitute powder, lovingly grated from the living soya-bean. Just add water, mix, and make the custard."

"So at last my water's good enough for my grandchildren?"

"No", I snapped, "as a matter of fact it isn't. We filter ours through a special device clamped to the cold tap; I'll bring it and the children will enjoy watching their grandfather fix

it on, as long as he watches his language."

There was a long, temper-controlling silence. Finally she said, "At least they'll enjoy riding their bikes in the garden."

That reminds me. Our car is full up with typewriters, sewing machines and some curtains I'd like you to hem, so perhaps you could borrow the bicycles from the children next door."

"That's easy. The people next door are away so you can help yourself. Perhaps you'd like to stay there instead?"

"I thought about it. 'Probably not. If we're by ourselves, the service won't be so good. Don't bother about sugar for the morning tea, by the way. We've given it up."

"That's a relief," she said, "one less thing to think about."

"Just lemon," I added. "Earl Grey will do. No coffee, though."

"That's a pity. I just bought some with you in mind."

"Thanks, no. But I'm partial to a coffee-substitute made of ground-up roots and imported from Poland. That health food shop on the far side of town should stock it." Well, I do try to be helpful.

"I trust I shall have time off to take them for a walk to that stream down the lane," she remarked.

"Certainly", I said, "as long as you hold the younger ones firmly by the hand and keep on the pavement."

"I am", she replied through what sounded from some freakish effect of the Post Office equipment, like gritted teeth, "familiar with the process of looking after children. I had two. You were one of them, if you remember. Would there be anything else?"

"Just one thing. It would be handier if we had your bedroom. It's further away from where the children sleep, so we won't be disturbed in the morning."

"That's fine," she said sweetly.

"No trouble at all. I'm all for people having a good time when they go away for the weekend. In fact, I think I'll do just that myself. It's ages since I saw your Aunt Pat. I know she'll be free this weekend. Make yourself at home, I shall."



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THE FIRE NEXT TIME

Renewed fighting in Nicaragua. An American carrier group diverted to the Pacific Coast of Central America. Major naval and military exercises to be held in the Caribbean. Dr Kissinger called in by the President to make urgent policy recommendations on Central America. This is the language of crisis, if not yet the actuality. It is not the actuality because the crisis of Central America in the eyes of President Reagan's administration is not a crisis which springs from the squabbles and instabilities of four or five small countries in the Central American isthmus. It is where that crisis might lead which troubles the Administration. It is the spectre of a Castroite Mexico.

There are now so many different strands in this story that it is hard to assess the position of the Administration both in the short and the long term. First, is it correct for Washington to feel that the prospect of a Castroite Mexico would be strategically unacceptable to the security of the United States? Secondly, should that be the case, is it a valid fear that the revolutionary contagion of Central America could ultimately subvert Mexico as well? Do the Mexicans agree with this analysis? If they do not (as appears to be the case) does that matter? What policy could Washington pursue, with or without Mexico, which would limit that possibility?

Thirdly, is any coherent policy to prevent it yet being carried out in El Salvador, Nicaragua or elsewhere? Is it succeeding? Can it succeed without much more overt recognition that Cuba is the real source of this type of turbulence in Central America? Can Cuba be forcefully dissuaded from exporting its revolution - arms and men - to susceptible neighbours without involving the Soviet Union? Can any forward policy by Washington in Central America, certainly one which could contain active measures against Cuba, command the support of American public opinion?

Dr Kissinger's appointment suggests that President Reagan needs answers to these questions, and has not yet found them from within his Administration. It could be, though, that the Kissinger appointment is not intended to find answers, but to help raise public awareness of the issues at stake in Central America. Certainly hitherto the reluctance of American public opinion, both to become informed and to become

involved in Central America, has been a severe restraint on Mr Reagan's ability to be firm. This reluctance may also spring from a public sense that inadequate leadership on the issue has itself encouraged the view that a greater awareness would not yet be justified.

The Mexican dimension, though still unstated, is considerable. One does not have to agree entirely with the Administration's assumption that Mexico is bound to be destabilised by revolutionary successes in Nicaragua and possibly El Salvador, to see that, should that occur, it would present a major strategic nightmare for the United States.

The United States has always been suspicious of Mexican stability. That has soured relations which are never open or easy; but the economic interdependence is considerable. The common border stretches for 1,600 miles. The Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions, and the fighting in El Salvador, have already created a substantial refugee presence in the United States. Consider the extra threat across the Mexican border, which is anyway uncontrolled, should a Leftist revolution in a next-door neighbour with more than six times the population of Cuba provoke an even larger wave.

The occult character of Mexican politics is an unhealthy basis from which to withstand the strains caused by mismanagement of the oil boom, overpopulation, grotesque income disparities, and a chronic tendency to espouse revolutionary rhetoric abroad without realising that its message is bound also to be heard at home. The Mexican domino could fall, if not yet.

The Administration is right to see that as the ultimate threat in the region. But is its current policy a correct response to that conclusion? Apparently Washington prefers to act alone and leave the Latin states to organize their efforts through the Contadora group. That may give the Latin a freer hand in diplomacy, but it also fosters the impression in Latin eyes that the United States Administration, as usual, is concerned only with its own perspectives and not with Latin American difficulties as a whole. These suspicions may be fuelled by the appointment of Dr Kissinger. He has no constituency in Latin America, and a reputation for preferring a covert manipulative style of diplomacy which Latins would find discouraging.

Dr Kissinger is said to agree

with President Reagan's policy in Central America. Perhaps he can therefore articulate it more fully. It must reach beyond El Salvador, though the United States should certainly not abandon the Salvadorean. It must also reach beyond the ambiguities of support for the Nicaraguan insurgents. Eventually the United States must face up to the question of Cuba if it is to present a coherent policy to match its assertion that the Caribbean basin is the victim of Cuba's revolutionary exports.

When Mr Haig was Secretary of State he too sent warships into the Caribbean to intimidate the Cubans, though he said nothing at the time. Perhaps the play worked. Certainly it led to a meeting with the Cuban Foreign Minister in Mexico, followed by a mission to Havana for General Walters, the President's Latin-American troubleshooter. Even Mr Gromyko is alleged to have signified a reluctance to get too exposed in the support of Cuba at such extremes of communication. However these early efforts in the Reagan administration tapered off. Public opinion was not behind them, and other preoccupations - notably the Falklands and the Middle East - superseded.

The Kissinger appointment and the movement of warships has raised the temperature. It remains to be seen what will be the practical effect on policy. One danger in such an appointment is that it suggests that something early and effective is possible - that success or failure in Central America is a palpable and realisable concept. It is not. The meetings of the Contadora Group of Latin nations continue off and on as a permanent consultative process, which more befits a situation without promise of early relief.

Europeans should exercise the same patience with members of President Reagan's Administration. They should not yield to the temptation to be too wise, and thus too unmoved by American preoccupations. It may seem a distant threat to Europeans. They may argue that President Reagan is guilty of the simplest form of geo-politics. However they should not forget that half of the supplies destined for NATO in an emergency would originate from ports in the Mexican Gulf, and that, as the Falklands emergency almost showed, when the interests of hemisphere and the interests of Atlantic allies compete for attention in Washington, the hemisphere may have the advantage.

PREJUDICE IN PERSONNEL

As yet Britain's cities have escaped any major outbreaks of the summer street violence which broke out so suddenly in 1981 and then so strikingly confounded the prophecies of the apocalyptically minded by failing to recur in last year's lukewarm summer. But it would be complacent to overlook the danger of fresh outbreaks as long as high unemployment remains endemic among young people in the cities and the disparities of opportunity between races are felt to be based on prejudice. Unemployment among young whites in the cities is 41 per cent today, while among West Indians it is 59 per cent.

This makes it all the more necessary to ensure that the means of minimizing racial discrimination are effective and fair to both sides in a dispute. The Act of 1976 set up an unduly cumbersome framework, and the Commission for Racial Equality - at once a campaigning and an investigative body - is an awkward mixture of fish and flesh. The inordinate delays in completing investigations into alleged abuses, which the CRE complains of this week in its paper on improving the Act, are due partly to the CRE's own omissions, as well as to a procedure which reflects the scope for delay inherent in the workings of the Act. Moreover the compensation at the end of the wearisome process is often so small that it is no surprise that complainants eventually lose

interest and precedents consequently fail to get established. So little case-law exists.

Courts and industrial tribunals are reluctant to find a case proved when they hear so few cases and have so few guidelines. The CRE's suggestion of special tribunals for racial and sexual discrimination, to build up experience in this special field, has its attractions. But apart from the obvious problems of cost and accessibility, it is better if possible to handle these issues within the ordinary framework of civil and industrial law, rather than segregate them in a separate category.

The most far-reaching of the CRE's proposals is to make it mandatory for employers to keep ethnic records of appointments and promotions, which could be examined if discrimination is alleged. Direct and overt racial bias is rare in this context and very hard to prove on the evidence of an individual case. Indirect bias even if deliberately concealed could perhaps be demonstrated over a period, if adequate records were kept. But given the state of employment, and the need to encourage some expansion of recruitment in small business, these procedures would have to be confined to companies employing, say, more than 50 people. That would relieve small companies of an unnecessary burden of paperwork, and an inhibition on recruitment caused by a fear that they might fall foul of the law.

Indirect discrimination, already illegal, includes such incidental bars as educational stipulations irrelevant to the job in question, or word-of-mouth recruiting practices which may prevent coloured candidates from hearing of vacancies. Such practices may discriminate unfairly even without conscious intent by the employer. It would have to be for applicants themselves to identify themselves by race for the record. It would be quite wrong to impose such a judgment on a prospective employer, even if this resulted in incomplete records. We have to accept that the interests of a sound social policy on race need more information than people are prepared to give.

The CRE goes on to propose that in direct discrimination cases the burden of proof should be reversed, so that once less favourable treatment had been established, there would be a presumption that intentional bias was to blame, unless the employer could show otherwise. A parallel already exists, in the law regarding unfair dismissal. In indirect discrimination, where intent does not have to be proved, the CRE proposes that the employer should have to pay compensation even if the discrimination was entirely unconscious and innocent. Both these proposals are quite unacceptable distortions to the British process.

Dr Banda's Eton

From Mrs Lucie Penn
Sir, As the only white woman governor of Kamuzu Academy I feel that I should take issue with Dr Ian Michael (July 14) when he feels that the creation of the high scholastically rated school, Kamuzu Academy, staffed entirely by white English and Scottish honours graduates in all subjects other than Latin to nuclear physics, reduces the standing of Dr Banda's own University of Malawi at Zomba.

But that is not so. The university has an excellent vice-chancellor in Dr Kimble, an Englishman of wide experience in organization and teaching in various parts of Africa. But it is not easy to tempt professors

from Europe, USA or England to go to a newly developing country in central Africa. So the Malawi graduates are valuable, teaching in the existing, old primary and secondary schools in the south.

However, when Dr Banda returned to his native country to help establish its independence, he had spent twenty years as a doctor of medicine in the USA, Scotland and England, during which time he had come to realize that only the highest possible standards in schools could produce the best university scholars.

He decided that Kamuzu Academy must produce school leavers, boys and girls, who could be accepted by Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard or Yale. These pupils are accepted by ability; if too poor to

pay, they go free. Several others are simply chosen to represent different districts.

All teacher applicants are interviewed in London, by Malawi men of distinction who fly over especially, sometimes chaired by Dr Kimble. In addition three white men, a London banker, a Scottish surgeon and a former provost of Edinburgh, make up our number of English up to four, so that we can more easily help sum up the character as well as qualifications of applicants.

Yours faithfully,
LUCIE PENN,
Warminghurst,
High Hurstwood,
Sussex.
July 15.

Extending limits of parole

From the Chairman of the Parole Board

Sir, If a reduction in the level of criminal offending is now a high priority, as I believe both Parliament and public opinion judge it to be, can we afford to postpone for much longer the additional protection to the public which would result from selecting more offenders to serve the balance of their sentences under supervision in the community?

The alternative of remaining in prison until the last moment means a man coming out cold. If he is of no fixed address, with no family or home to go to and without employment prospects, the chances of returning to his old ways and re-offending are high.

Supervision of parolees in the community, with special reporting and residential conditions (sometimes in probation hostels), and with the sanction of recall to prison in the event of bad behaviour, cannot eliminate the risk of re-offending. But it can and does greatly reduce it.

The Home Secretary has the power, given to him by Parliament in the Criminal Justice Act last year, to extend by order the limits of parole by altering the minimum period of eligibility for release on licence. A reduction in the minimum statutory period from twelve months to six months, provided that one third of the sentence had been served, would result in a substantial increase in the number of prisoners qualifying for parole consideration.

While extra costs would arise in reporting on more shorter term prisoners and assessing their suitability for parole, and also in the proper supervision by the Probation Service of those who are so released, has not the time come to press for the introduction of this constructive contribution to policies of crime reduction?

Yours faithfully,
WINDLESHAM, Chairman,
Parole Board,
50 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
July 20.

Dispute at 'FT'

From the Managing Director of the Financial Times

Sir, Mr Booroff's letter in today's *Times* (July 19) fails to relate to the issue of the mediators' substantive recommendations on the settlement of the dispute which the NGA has still failed to accept, despite advice from ACAS and the TUC that they should do so. Does Mr Booroff think that everyone, other than the NGA, is wrong on the issues involved?

Since January, 1981, the *Financial Times* machine minders' wages will have risen by some 22 per cent. Furthermore, this increase allows for a reduction on the working week from five days to four days, as well as a holiday entitlement of some six weeks. The NGA can scarcely claim that we have failed to negotiate on their alleged grievances.

The *Financial Times* is losing £1m a week on the dispute, the strikers £120,000 a week. The solution is delayed by the NGA's refusal so far to accept the mediators' recommendations and trade unions' procedural delays. Is this wise?

Yours faithfully,
R. A. F. McCLEAN,
Managing Director,
Financial Times,
Bracken House,
10 Cannon Street, EC4.
July 19.

Solicitors' charges

From Mr Thomas Woodcock

Sir, As the creator of *The Expense of Time* and the principal author of the original editions I must take issue with the misleading references to it by Alastair Brett in his article of July 9.

The booklet is not, as Mr Brett states, a guide to how to work out a charging rate. It merely, as is clearly stated in the introductions to the first two editions, provides a means of "establishing the expense to the solicitor of doing his work" and "dealing with establishing what is a fair fee to charge a client in a particular case."

In very simple terms *The Expense of Time* provides anyone who uses it, be he an architect, an accountant or a lawyer, with a barometer. If he charges less than the figure it registers more often than he charges above it he will find at the end of the year, even if there is a small reward for his work, it will be inadequate.

In short, the booklet provides the user with a means of allocating to each job he does by reference to the time spent on it the proportion of his current annual overhead expenses which have been devoted to it.

Yours truly,
THOMAS WOODCOCK,
West View,
Hastingsdon,
Rossendale,
Lancashire.
July 14.

Fortress Falklands

From Sir Miles Clifford

Sir, In a letter from me which you were good enough to publish on June 16 last year I suggested that the Islands should be established as a Nato base and received a number of letters endorsing this proposal. The sole objection ever offered to me is that it was geographically, a contradiction in terms, this, of course I accept and was well aware of when I wrote. May I make the following points in further urging acceptance of this proposal?

1. Fortress Falklands, entailing as it does a larger military establishment (with the addition of naval and air force units and the essential administrative tail) than the entire civil population, cannot pose a happy social situation for the islanders.

2. With a change of government

The other facts of Israel's economy

From the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Israel

Sir, Recently (June 20, 21, 22) your paper ran a three-part series (June 23) followed by an editorial on Israel. Much of the material was devoted to Israel's economy. One could respond to the articles on two levels: fact and opinion. I would like, however, to restrict myself to facts. The reader can then decide how much trust he is willing to put in the opinions quoted.

Let me start with a fact nowhere mentioned: that Israel's defence burden fluctuates between one quarter and one third of gnp (compared to about five per cent for the United Kingdom). As for the points mentioned: first, the IMF did not offer any loan to Israel, as Professor Assaf Razin claims. As the official who was charged with coordinating the visit of the IMF mission to Israel I am also keenly aware of the mission's opinion. Their report criticizes, in the first place, the excessive wages paid in Israel. The process of increase in real wages at a pace exceeding increases in the productivity is not novel: it started some ten years ago. About devaluations, the IMF agrees that they are rather useless under the Israeli indexation system, which started under the British Mandate.

Secondly, in light of the above, the doctors' strike can hardly be attributed to dwindling wages. In fact, the obstinacy of Mr Yoram Aridor in the matter would be applauded by the IMF.

The most blatant error of fact lies

with the claim by Mr Gad Yaacobi that \$600m to \$700m could be saved by cutting the "huge" transfers to the West Bank. The truth is that the correct amount is virtually unidentifiable, because it is spread over many government departments.

But in any case, only a fraction of the mentioned sum can be identified as funds spent there which would not have been spent otherwise. For example, spending on public housing would have occurred anyway. West Bank or not. Moreover, many of the West Bank projects are highly profitable, because they are implemented in areas that are at once uncrowded and close to Israel's economic centre. Such advantages do not exist in Israel proper.

Finally, the accompanying table mentions that Israel's foreign debt figures are gross, ignoring Israel's foreign assets. But your Jerusalem Correspondent does not mention numbers which, in this case, matter. Israel's banks alone own over \$5b. Non-banking assets amount to a similar sum, Israeli banks deposit in foreign banks more than the latter lend to Israel.

Consequently, though Israel certainly depends on, and is grateful for American aid, the picture is far from being as grim as your reporter would have it.

Yours sincerely,
Y. PLESSNER,
Deputy Governor,
Bank of Israel,
P.O. Box 780,
Jerusalem.
July 6.

Rules on life jackets

From Professor D. E. Newland

Sir, According to your front page report today (July 19) it appears that the Civil Aviation Authority's rules do not require life jackets to be demonstrated on flights which take less than 30 minutes.

If this is true, is it not a matter of serious public concern?

When an aircraft ditches at sea, the emergency procedure is (1) release seat belt, (2) put on life jacket, (3) leave aircraft, (4) inflate life jacket. Speed is of the essence. If passengers do not know where to find or how to use a life jacket, their chances of survival are greatly reduced. I do not have statistics, but

I suspect that a helicopter on a short sea crossing is just as likely to land in the water as a jumbo jet on an intercontinental flight.

This matter probably had nothing to do with the loss of life in the recent helicopter disaster. But if the CAA rules are as you appear to say they are, I hope that the Secretary of State for Transport will think it right to re-examine the premises on which these rules have been formulated and to give a public explanation which will reassure us that these and other CAA rules are soundly based.

Yours sincerely,
D. E. NEWLAND,
University Engineering Department,
Trumpington Street, Cambridge.
July 19.

BA redundancies

From Mr Clair M. Waterbury

Sir, While it is recognized there is a strong and valid case for trimming the staff of British Airways to a level that can compete effectively with the world's airlines, the nature of the recent redundancies (report, July 12) came as a shock to those in the industry.

The most surprising feature of the redundancy package is the high-handed manner in which respected names in the industry were treated. There has to be a better way than to read headlines such as "British Airways sacks 50 managers in reorganization" and then identifying them by name.

The apparently heartless manner in which the announcement was made public would seem to indicate

British Airways top management does not appreciate the *esprit de corps* found in smaller more efficient airlines. It is difficult in the present atmosphere amongst British Airways employees to imagine them volunteering to present their management with a free Boeing aircraft as a gesture of their loyalty as in the case of Delta Airlines recently.

It is a fairly easy matter to sack people at random; it is quite another matter to build a loyal and highly competent team to meet the competitive challenge of the airline industry today.

Yours faithfully,
CLAIR M. WATERBURY,
(retired Vice-President,
Philippine Airlines),
46 The Little Boltons, SW10.
July 13.

Clerical habits

From The Reverend Giles Hunt

Sir, It was cruelly to parish priests to print Eric Evans's letter on locked churches and Angela Wheatcroft's on clerical habits on the same day (July 9). Mr Evans's assurance that "where there's a will there's a way" was merely irritating, but Ms Wheatcroft teases us on purpose.

But behind her dig at the incompetence of clergy untrained in management skills lies an often unrecognised problem. It is easy to enlist lay enthusiasm and talent for any "one-off" enterprise, from a Church fete upwards. But very few lay are both able and willing to undertake any regular commitment, such as Sunday schools, youth clubs, and sick visiting require.

This is partly because of a low level of Christian commitment (even some parochial church council or deanery synod members fail to fulfil the minimum obligation of attending worship each Sunday), partly because with modern mobility many lay have family and other commitments that make them often unavailable at weekends and after work during the week.

Most voluntary organisations, and even political parties, find the same difficulty, compounded, as the experience of political parties shows, by the fact that some of those who are able and willing to devote themselves wholeheartedly are way-out extremists.

But this is not to knock the faithful few who do give unassuming, devoted and invaluable voluntary service, which can indeed put the parish priest to shame.

Yours faithfully,
GILES HUNT,
Preston Vicarage,
Preston Lane,
Faversham,
Kent.

National Gallery funds

From Mr William Chubb

Sir, On July 11 the National Gallery unveiled its latest acquisition, a magnificent canvas by Luca Giordano, bought from a London dealer for a figure rumoured to be about £200,000. Almost exactly two years ago the same picture, correctly catalogued but unstretched and uncleaned, was sold at Christie's to the same dealer for £38,000.

The National Gallery is allowed to maintain secrecy over how it spends its government funds. This latest purchase, however, would seem to suggest that this privilege is being abused to subsidise the London art market.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM CHUBB,
39 Elgin Crescent, W11.
July 16.

Salad days

From Mrs Mary Z. Hancock

Sir, How right Mrs Jamieson surely is about the English lettuce (July 13), but why does the London green-grocer ignore our sugar-cos from the Fens - succulent, dark green leaves protecting a great crisp yellow heart?

And even in the meagre winter why do our market-gardeners deny us the subtle delights of lamb's lettuce or corn salad - robust, easy to grow and harvest, and surely a European original with such a wealth of still current names like *mollusini*, *mâche*, *Feldsalat*, *douce*, *gallinella*, *Rapunzel* and, not the least, *Salade Lorette*, and doubtless a host of others between here and the Urals.

Yours faithfully,
MARY Z. HANCOCK,
6 Tennis Court Road,
Cambridge.
July 13.

Doubts on Hawaii telescope

From Professor H. A. Gebbie

Sir, Astronomers have become the big spenders among British scientists and the time has come to restrain them. There are, however, more urgent actions needed than merging the national observatories and selling off Herstonmoore, however reasonable these projects might be.

The astronomers' latest extravagance is a second telescope about to be built in Hawaii at a cost to the UK taxpayers of nearly £6m. It would bring their maintenance bill there up to £1.5m per annum.

There are three reasons for questioning the soundness of this project. Firstly, it is not clear that adequate preparatory work has been done to show that a submillimetre wave telescope will work with acceptable efficiency on the Mauna Kea site. Secondly, it may be "old hat" in the face of competition from high altitude or space observing techniques. It was conceived in the late sixties but fifteen years of inflation have made its cost too high considering its likely performance. Finally, its promoters misinterpret as a British opportunity what should be a warning. Their American counterparts, despite cheaper access to Hawaii, opted out of a similar project.

British astronomers have been generously supported over the last twenty years and as a result have had conspicuous successes in the radio, ultraviolet, and X-ray wavelength regions. But they should not expect this for every branch of their subject. Recently they have probably had about another £10m to buy their way into the Infra-red Astronomical Satellite (IRAS) which was initiated in the United States.

The capital amount that the British taxpayer is putting into the new telescope would support about 200 research students for three years, or about 50 average "small science" research projects for the same time. There is no doubt in my mind that either of these alternatives would do more for innovation and for the well being of the next generation than would be achieved by building the new telescope.

Yours faithfully,
H. A. GEBBIE,
Department of Electrical Engineering,
Imperial College of Science & Technology,
Exhibition Road, SW7.

Before the 'think tank'

From Mr Gordon Bradshaw

Sir, Mrs Ianthe Bradshaw's letter (July 13) is most interesting but surely Churchill did not initiate memoranda - W.C. One simply refuses to believe this; he had too keen a sense of the ridiculous. My recollection of facsimile letters and memoranda is that he invariably used the initials WSC.

On the general subject of cabinet administration, it is to be noted that on April 26, 1942, Churchill issued a memorandum which read: "I am astounded to see the number of copies that were struck off this 'All Most Secret and Personal' telegram. Who is responsible for this? Some rules governing such distributions. I intend to bring the matter before the Cabinet."

Perhaps there is a lesson here for the present administration in view of the increasing number of leaks of important documents which are a rather ugly feature of the modern political scene.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON BRADSHAW,
Fairways,
Latham Avenue,
Lymington, Hampshire.

Any advance on 545-9?

From Mr Christopher Booker

Sir, Carrying a page of your issue on July 4 to my compost heap, I have belatedly observed your mischievous coincidence. In their game against Somerset at Taunton, the New Zealand touring team scored no less than 544 for 9 declared, without a single batsman reaching a century - there were three 80's, number 11 scored 60 and the only batsman not in double figures was the first man in who scored a duck.

For some time now I have been idly trying to discover what is the highest total when no one made a century (a statistic not recorded in any of the usual reference books). Had the New Zealanders at Taunton not declared at 544 they might have beaten the highest score I have been able to find - 545, also for 9 wickets, also at Taunton, by Somerset against Hampshire in 1930. On that occasion the whole team reached double figures, with J. C. White (88) the highest score, and number 11 on 80 not out. Can anyone improve on this?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BOOKER,
The Old Shop,
Lymington,
Mr Shepton Mallet,
Somerset.

Land of hope

From Mr Colin R. Stonelake

Sir, Since the Government has, in its wisdom, decided to abolish the GLC, would it not be too much to ask for the return of the county of Middlesex and for the remainder of the GLC to return to the counties from which they were wrested in 1965?

Middlesex, although abolished 18 years ago, has refused to die. It is included as part of the postal address, it has its own (very good) cricket team and those avid followers of the Boat Race will have heard of the Middlesex Station, not the Greater London left bank.

Surely we now deserve official recognition? I remain, yours faithfully,
COLIN R. STONELAKE,
85 Belmont Road,
Uxbridge,
Middlesex.
July 11.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

HEX TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

T Index: 704.4 up 4.7
T All Share: 445.71 up 0.94
(Datastream estimate)
Largains: 18,705Instaform USM Leaders
Index: Not available
New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1211.84 up 14.72
Hong Kong Hang Sang Index 095.22 up 5.64
Amsterdam Index 143.6 up 1.9Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 965.00 up 4.4
Sydney: AO Index 655.3 up 1.3
Brussels: General Index
128.80 up 0.46
Paris: CAC Index 125.7 up 1.7Zurich: S K A Index 287.8 up 1.3
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 8927.32 up 60.66

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.5255 up 70pts
Index 84.5 unchanged
DM3.9325 down 0.0075
FF11.7125 down 0.1275
Yen 365.25 down 0.50
Dollar
Index 125.7 down 0.5
DM 2.5745

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.5250
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 50.575954
SDR 50.697464

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9 1/2%
Finance houses base rate 10 1/2%
Discount market loans week
fixed 9 1/2-9 3/4%
3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3/4%
3 month DM 9 1/2-9 3/4%
3 month FF 14 1/4-14 1/2%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 10.50
Fed funds 9%
Treasury long bond 92 19/32-92 23/32ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period June 2 to July 5,
1983 inclusive 9.878 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am
\$426, pm \$428.25
close \$428.75
New York latest: 428.25
Kruggerand (per coin): \$441-442.50 (\$289-290)
Sovereigns (new) \$100.50-101.50 (\$65.75-66.50)
excludes VAT.

TODAY

Interims: Bullough, Elandsrand
Gold Mining Company; Ford
(Martin) Goal Petroleum, In-
dependent Investment, YJ Lovell
(Holdings), Meggett Holdings,
South African Land (Div),
Southvaal Holding (Div), Tace,
Vaal Reefs Exploration and
Mining Company (Div), West-
ern Deep, Wiloughby consol-
idated.
Finals: Atlantic Assets Trust
BET, Gus., Linford, William
Ronsam, Renold.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Bardon Hill Group, Bardon Hill,
Leicester (11.30).
Boots, The Chartered In-
surance Institute, 20 Alderman-
bury EC2 (11.00).
Burnett & Hallamshire, Cut-
ler's Hall, Church Street,
Sheffield (noon).
Centrovineal Estates, 6
Saville Row, W1 (10.00).
Century Oils Group, Grand
Hotel, Trinity Street, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent (noon).
Courtaulds, Europa Hotel
(Westminster Suite) Grosvenor
Square, W1 (10.45).
Edbro (Holdings), Charing
Cross Hotel, WC2 (11.30).
Exel, London International
Press Centre, New Street
Square, EC4 (noon).
Leigh Interests, Chamber of
Commerce, 75 Harborne Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham
(noon).
Thomas Locker (Holdings),
Church Street, Warrington
(11.00).
London & Associated Invest-
ment Trust, Clement House, 99
Aldwych, WC2 (noon).
The Pension Fund Property
Unit Trust, Café Royal, 68
Regent Street, W1 (noon).
Physu, The Brewery Confer-
ence Centre, Chiswell Street,
EC1 (noon).
St. Samuel, Hunters Road,
Birmingham (noon).
Valor, Tallow Chandlers Hall, 4
Dowgate Hill, EC2 (noon).
West's Group International,
Chartered Insurance Institute,
20 Aldermanbury EC2 (11.00)

Depreciation bill of £1.5bn as corporation writes off assets more quickly

Telecom charges may rise after unexpected dip in profits

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

British Telecom, the Govern-
ment's most hirsute candidate
for privatization, tarnished its
financial image yesterday by
announcing an unexpected fall
in profits of £236.5m in 1982-83
from £458m the previous year.Analysts have been looking for
a 1982-83 profit above £500m
on the basis of Telecom's
sparkling results for the first
half of the year. But the figures
were depressed by a decision to
write off switching equipment
more quickly, the new de-
preciation policy is likely to
affect profits for a number of
years.Sir George Jefferson, the
chairman, said that some
telephone charges must rise this
year if Telecom is to meet the
Government's financial objec-
tives. But any increases would
be "very modest" - no more
than 3.3 per cent overall - and
would not take effect before
November, two years after the
last increase.Proposals will soon be put to
the Post Office Users National
Council, the Statutory con-
sumer watchdog for postal and
telephone services. "We will be
looking at the proposals very
critically," a POUNC spokesman
said, "in the light of the
Government's financial target
and British Telecom's perfor-
mance in reducing costs, which
has not been very good."POUNC pointed out that
Telecom managed to cut real
unit costs by only 2.7 per cent
last year. The aim agreed with
the Government in 1978 was an
average reduction of 5 per cent
a year for five years. TelecomSir George Jefferson's perform-
ance "generally satisfactory".has achieved 2.8 per cent and
claims that the original target
was "unrealistically high" be-
cause the recession prevented
expansion at the planned rate.
Apart from the telephoneprice freeze, the main reason for
the fall in profit was a £276m
increase in depreciation charges
to £1.451m. Telecom is writing
off its assets more quickly in
response to accelerating techno-
logical changes and to the
competition expected as a result
of the Government's liberaliza-
tion programme.Both factors reduce the
working life of the equipment,
especially telephone exchanges.Sir George pointed out that
the profit, though below last
year's record, still represented a
5.8 per cent return on capital
employed, compared with the
Government target of 5.5 per
cent. (The official target for
1983-84 is 6.5 per cent.)Telecom's performance was
"generally satisfactory", he said,
"both as regards our trading
results and the range and
quality of services we offer."In the annual report, Sir
George looks to a bright future
for Telecom as a public limited
company. The Telecommuni-
cations Bill, which is likely to be
on the statute book by the New
Year, provides "a workable
basis for taking British Telecom
into the private sector."Disappointment with the
1982-83 profit has not affected
the City's enthusiasm for the
long-term financial prospects of
a privatized British Telecom.Profits of billions of pounds a
year are expected by the late
1980s as Telecom benefits from
its new electronic switching
equipment, the growth of
conventional telecommuni-
cations and expansion into new
services such as cable television.Turnover rose by almost 12
per cent to £6,377m, and the
accounts show the corporation
to have a favourable cash flow.

Volcker 'to maintain monetary growth'

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US Federal Reserve
Board removed some of the
upward pressure on interest
rates yesterday by announcing a
compromise monetary policy
for the next six months. This
will allow growth at present or
slightly reduced levels.Instead of reining in sharply the
recent big growth in money
supply, as financial markets had
feared the Fed has decided to
live with the growth for the rest
of this year. Next year it will try
to curtail credit slightly.Mr Paul Volcker, Fed chair-
man, said the new targets "by
themselves do not necessarily
imply either further interest rate
pressures or the reverse in the
period ahead."Much will depend on further
progress in reducing the enor-
mous US Federal deficit and on
adequate funding for the Inter-
national Monetary Fund, Mr
Volcker said in presenting his
mid-year economic report to
Congress.Failure by Congress to
approve additional new funds
of \$5.5bn (£5.6bn) for the IMF
in a vote scheduled for tomor-
row would also put upward
pressure on interest rates, Mr
Volcker said.Mr Volcker said he was
heartened by the economic
progress over the past six
months.Inflation had abated, the
economy had begun a strongrecovery, and unemployment
was beginning to drop and
would be down to 9.5 per cent
this year and to 8.5 per cent by
the end of 1984.The Fed is staying with its
present broad target for money-
ary growth for the more
comprehensive M2 and M3
money supply measures to
allow growth to continue
without generating new fears of
inflation.The decision on the more
sensitive and narrower M1
measure of money was more
difficult, Mr Volcker said. In
this area, the Fed raised its
target for the rest of the year to
a range of between 5 per cent
and 9 per cent, but lowered it to
a range of 4 per cent to 8 per
cent for 1984.This shows that the Fed is
prepared to live with the large
bulge in the US money supply
which began in late January for
the moment, but to moderate
this growth for the rest of the
year and decrease it slightly
next year.Mr Volcker referred to the
decision as "modest and timely
action to restrain excessive
growth in money and liquidity,"
considering the strong recovery.Mr Volcker was not yet ready
to endorse a return to the fixed
exchange rate system but he
said that this "may be on our
agenda in the future."

Good news boosts the Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) -
Wall Street stocks yesterday
held most of their initial sharp
gains. The Dow Jones Industrial
average was up about 16 points
at nearly 1,315 while advancing
issues were more than 4-to-1
over losers.Trading continued heavy.
Mr Charles Lewis, vice-presi-
dent at Shearson-American
Express, said: "Market psy-
chology has made a 180-degree

WALL STREET

turn to the positive with the
clear change to a flexible policy
at the Fed. Further Treasury
receipts already are rising from
the improving economy.American Telephone & Tele-
graph was trading at 62 1/2, up
1/2. International Business
Machines 122 1/2, up 2; General
Electric 51 1/2, up 1/2; American
Express 68 1/2, up 1/2. Citicorp
39 1/2, up 1/2; General Motors 74
3/4, up 1/2; Bell & Howell 56 1/2,
up 2 1/2; NCR 118 1/2, up 2 1/2;
Lockheed 117 1/2, up 2 1/2; Merck
95, up 2 1/2; and Burlington
Northern 91 1/2, up 1 1/2.Warner Communications was
off 1/2 at 22 1/2; and Commodore
International off 1 at 50 1/2.
Communications Satellite up
3 at 59 1/2; Motorola up 4 1/2 to
135 1/2; Diebold up 1 to 83;
Sauders Associates up 2, at 102;
Baxter Travenol up 1 1/2 to 60 1/2.

22% fall in council building

By Baron Phillips
Property CorrespondentDeclining orders for office
buildings and public sector
homes have reversed the lift
in construction work seen earlier
this year. Department of the
Environment figures show an
overall 6 per cent fall in new
orders during the three months
to May compared with the
quarter from December to
February in the three months
to May, the seasonally adjusted
value of orders at constant 1975
prices was £1477m nearly
£150m more than the same
time a year ago.The construction industry
has been hardest hit by the 22
per cent fall in new order for
public sector homes over the
three months to May compared
with the previous quarter. New
orders in this sector were also 2
per cent lower than the same
period last year.Even the expansion of private
sector house building has
suffered a setback. The DoE
figures suggest a 4 per cent
decline, although present ac-
tivity is 30 per cent higher than
a year ago.Work in the private commer-
cial fields, which covers con-
struction of office blocks and
shopping centres is 15 per cent
lower than the same period last
year and in the previous
quarter.

Race to change SE rules

By Philip Robinson

New rules which will save the
Stock Exchange facing the
Restrictive Practices Court may
need to be ready within two
weeks.A parliamentary order is
needed as part of the process to
stop court action and the
Commons goes into recess at the
end of the month until late
October.By the time Parliament
resumes, the court will have
wanted the final exchange of
evidence from the Stock Ex-
change and the Office of Fair
Trading, which has brought the
action.Talks between Sir Nicholas
Goodison, Stock Exchange
chairman, and the Department
of Trade about alternative rules
to avoid a court case, has caused
some surprise among its mem-
bers.Sir Nicholas is understood to
have apologised to the 46
members of the ruling Council
at their routine meeting on
Tuesday for not alerting them to
the talks. He stressed that they
were extremely confidential.In fact, few people are
believed to have been told that
talks have been going on for six
months.Whitehall sources were sug-
gesting that the Exchange has
already been given a fairly clear
idea of what changes the
Government will accept for
dropping the court case.This would have allowed the
small sub-committee of Ex-
change members and staff to
have drawn up at least a
discussion document.The full proposals will have
to be approved by the Exchange
Council.Further details are likely to
emerge tomorrow.On Tuesday Mrs Thatcher at
Prime Minister's question time
said a statement on the proposals
would have to be made to the
Commons before the court
action could be stopped.Her statement signalled an
about-turn by the Government,
which had insisted that the
Stock Exchange case must go
before the court.The move could well meet
stiff opposition within the
Commons and senior exchange
members were saying last night
that the case to preserve the
existing system was strong
enough to win even in court.Sir Nicholas: Apology to the
ruling Council.

Indian Navy order may top £200m

By John Lawless and Rodney Cowton

Britain has received orders
from the Indian Navy for
helicopters and missiles which
may ultimately be worth more
than £200m. They are believed
to be among the largest
industrial contracts ever won by
Britain in India.The orders are for Westland
to supply Sea King helicopters
powered by Rolls-Royce
Gnome engines and armed with
the British Aerospace Sea Eagle
anti-ship missile. It is under-
stood that the orders were
gained against fierce French
competition.They were announced by Mr
Geoffrey Fittie, Minister of
State for Defence Procurement,
yesterday as he opened the
second day of the debate of the
defence estimates in the Com-
mons.Neither the Ministry of
Defence nor the three com-
panies which have won the
contracts would give details.Indian sources said the order
was initially for 12 Sea King
Mark 42B helicopters, with an
option on a further eight. The
package is believed to include
supply of spare engines and
other parts, and training in the
use of the equipment.The value of the contracts
will be greatly influenced by the
size of the spares package, but if
the option for the additional
eight helicopters is exercised, it
seems likely that the total could
be between £200m and £300m.It is the first export order for
British Aerospace's new sea-
skimming Sea Eagle missile.
The Sea Eagle successfully
completed firing trials recently.
It is believed to be much
superior to the French Exocet
missile. Britain has ordered the
Sea Eagle for two squadrons of
RAF Buccaneer aircraft and the
Royal Navy's Sea Harriers.India already has Sea King
helicopters powered by the
Rolls Royce Gnome engine but
the latest contract came in spite
of intense competition from
Aerospatiale the French firm
which was offering its Puma
helicopter.Mr John Nott made a special
case for Sea Kings when he
visited India as Defence Sec-
retary last year. But, as three
years of negotiations reached a
critical stage, President Mitter-
rand is understood to have
made a late attempt to snatch
the order with a personal plea to
Mrs Gandhi.Indian military advisers
were, however, particularly
impressed with the Sea King's
performance in the Falklands,
when all but one of the 200
helicopters used were supplied
by Westland. Their purchase,
therefore, more than makes up
for the loss of eight naval
helicopter sales which the firm
was to make to Argentina.

Go-ahead for two N Sea gas fields expected

IN BRIEF

Go-ahead for two gas devel-
opments in the southern North
Sea is expected to be announced
shortly, adding substance to the
Government's forecasts of a
new boom in offshore oil and
gas activity.The Department of Energy
has approved plans by Amoco
for its East Leman project,
designed to tap additional
reserves in the already devel-
oped Leman field. And Conoco,
another American oil company,
is expected to announce in the
next few days that it is going
ahead with development of the
Victor field 50 miles north east
of Yarmouth.Partners in Victor include
Mobil and Britoil. The project
is believed to cost in the region
of £90m with gas reserves of
about 700,000 million cubic
feet. The two projects reflect the
higher gas prices now being
offered for North Sea gas
supplies by the British Gas
Corporation.● TOYOTA-LOTUS LINK: Toyota, the Japanese car manu-
facturer, is to become a leading
shareholder in Group Lotus, the
Norfolk sports car company
alongside British Car Auctions,
a document being dispatched to
shareholders tomorrow will
reveal. Lotus originally rejected
rescue finance put forward by
Toyota but a new deal has been
hammered out that will bring
the Japanese company in as a
20 per cent shareholder along-
side BCA.● MERCURY APPROVAL: Mercury, British Telecom's new
private competitor, expects
shortly to receive Government
approval to operate the full
international telecommunications
service, independent of
British Telecom.● TI GROUP 'DEAL': Alfred
Herbert, the machine tool
company that went into receiver-
ship for the second time in
April, is believed to have been
bought by the TI Group in a
deal that should be finalized
within three weeks.Provision for loan losses was
\$20m, double those of a year
earlier.● SHARES SALE: Mercan-
toil has sold 335,200 shares in
Milford Docks to a consortium
headed by Mr Michael Davies.
Mercantol and the consortium
each now hold 14.95 per cent in
Milford Docks.● STEEL PROPOSAL: The
European Commission has
proposed further small cuts to
the British steel industry. Mr
Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of
State at the Foreign Office, said
in the Commons yesterday.
"We are considering our re-
sponse and will take into
consideration comments on
both sides of the House," he
added.

New Services, Inc.

a wholly owned subsidiary of

GrandMet USA, Inc.

has acquired approximately 96%
of the outstanding Common Stock of

Children's World, Inc.

The undersigned acted as financial advisor to GrandMet USA, Inc. and as
dealer manager for the Tender Offer in this transaction.MORGAN STANLEY & CO.
Incorporated

July 18, 1983

Gencor Group

Gold Mining Companies' Reports for the Quarter ended 30 June 1983

All companies mentioned are incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

ST. HELENA Gold Mines Limited

Issued capital - 9 825 000 ordinary shares of R1 each.
- 10 115 070 cumulative preference shares of R1 each.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	130 853	131 405	262 258
Ore milled (t)	575 000	555 000	1 130 000
Gold produced (kg)	3 584	3 497	7 081
Yield (g/t)	6.3	6.3	6.3
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	83.32	104.66	98.89
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	44.15	42.09	43.14
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	39.17	62.57	55.75
Gold price received (R/kg)	14 896	16 679	15 726
Gold price received (R/kg)	426	475	451

Beisa Section	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	71 029	57 573	128 602
Ore milled (t)	262 000	228 000	490 000
Gold produced (kg)	307	282	589
Yield (g/t)	1.17	1.24	1.20

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	53 659	58 087	111 746
- Working costs	25 387	23 360	48 747
- Working income	28 272	34 727	62 999
Sundry income	1 779	1 542	3 321
Income before taxation and State's share of income	30 048	36 269	66 317
Taxation and State's share of income	16 786	14 728	31 524
Income after taxation and State's share of income	13 262	21 541	34 793
Capital expenditure	3 191	9 919	13 110
Dividend declared	24 063	2 699	26 762

Development - Beisa Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	2 874	2 153	5 027
Advanced on reef (m)	529	877	1 406
Sampled (m)	492	519	1 011
Channel width (cm)	104	133	90
Average value - gold (g/t)	12.1	2.6	15.5
- gold (cm.g/t)	1 263	348	1 391

Beisa Section - Beisa Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	4 964	4 778	9 742
Advanced on reef (m)	876	1 095	1 971
Sampled (m)	1 081	965	2 046
Channel width (cm)	80	77	78
Average value - gold (g/t)	3.6	3.9	3.8
- uranium (cm.g/t)	226	300	263
- uranium (cm.g/t)	1 313	1 247	1 280

REMARKS	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Capital expenditure	3 191	9 919	13 110
Amounts approved not yet spent - R21 200 000			
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R1 428 000			

On 1 June 1983 dividend No. 58 of 250 cents per share was declared to members registered on 17 June 1983. Dividend warrants will be posted on 4 August 1983.

Beisa
Capital expenditure
Actual capital expenditure for the quarter amounted to R1.2 million (March 1983 quarter R1.2 million).
Amounts approved not yet spent - R18 203 000
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R500 000
Agreement between St. Helena and Beisa
No income has accrued to St. Helena to date.

STILFONTEIN Gold Mining Company Limited

Issued capital - 13 082 920 shares of 50 cents each.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	124 001	122 587	246 588
Ore milled (t)	425 000	428 000	853 000
Gold produced (kg)	3 009	3 249	6 258
Yield (g/t)	6.9	7.5	7.2
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	104.29	120.56	112.43
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	70.18	68.31	69.25
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	34.11	52.25	43.18
Gold price received (R/kg)	15 024	16 155	15 621
Gold price received (R/kg)	430	464	447

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	45 366	52 564	97 930
- Working costs	30 793	29 782	60 575
- Working income	14 573	22 782	37 355
Sundry income	1 367	1 855	3 222
Tribute and royalties - net	1 261	1 241	2 502
Income before taxation and State's share of income	17 461	26 120	43 583
Taxation and State's share of income	4 723	13 921	18 644
Income after taxation and State's share of income	12 738	12 199	24 939
Capital expenditure	556	380	936
Dividend declared	18 288	18 288	36 576

Development - Vasil Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	8 565	1 988	10 553
Advanced on reef (m)	1 002	568	1 570
Sampled (m)	783	411	1 194
Channel width (cm)	26	37	28
Average value - gold (g/t)	42.5	7.3	50.4
- uranium (cm.g/t)	1 093	267	1 276
- uranium (cm.g/t)	0 572	0 239	0 675

REMARKS	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Capital expenditure	556	380	936
Amounts approved not yet spent - R2 584 000			
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R223 000			

On 1 June 1983 dividend No. 58 of 140 cents per share was declared to members registered on 17 June 1983. Dividend warrants will be posted on 4 August 1983.

Beisa
Capital expenditure
Actual capital expenditure for the quarter amounted to R1.2 million (March 1983 quarter R1.2 million).
Amounts approved not yet spent - R18 203 000
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R500 000
Agreement between St. Helena and Beisa
No income has accrued to St. Helena to date.

On 1 June 1983 dividend No. 58 of 140 cents per share was declared to members registered on 17 June 1983. Dividend warrants will be posted on 4 August 1983.

Beisa
Capital expenditure
Actual capital expenditure for the quarter amounted to R1.2 million (March 1983 quarter R1.2 million).
Amounts approved not yet spent - R18 203 000
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R500 000
Agreement between St. Helena and Beisa
No income has accrued to St. Helena to date.

The GROOTVLEI Proprietary Mines Limited

Issued capital - 11 438 816 stock units of 25 cents each.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	118 112	107 344	225 456
Ore milled (t)	481 000	440 000	921 000
Gold produced (kg)	1 854	1 672	3 526
Yield (g/t)	3.9	3.8	3.8
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	58.30	62.03	60.06
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	35.07	35.37	35.21
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	23.23	26.66	24.85
Gold price received (R/kg)	15 035	16 286	15 614
Gold price received (R/kg)	430	464	448

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	28 045	27 283	55 328
- Working costs	18 888	15 561	34 449
- Working income	9 157	11 722	22 879
Sundry income	1 177	1 172	2 349
Tribute and royalties - net	(347)	(488)	(835)
Income before taxation and State's share of income	10 989	11 700	22 660
Taxation	4 436	5 432	9 868
Income after taxation and State's share of income	6 553	6 268	12 792
Capital expenditure	3 334	1 922	5 256
Dividend declared	7 435	7 435	14 870

Development - Black Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	381	1 888	2 269
Advanced on reef (m)	217	1 386	1 603
Sampled (m)	217	1 386	1 603
Channel width (cm)	109	19	77
Average value - gold (g/t)	11.3	26.3	19.3
- gold (cm.g/t)	1 230	499	1 040

REMARKS	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Capital expenditure	3 334	1 922	5 256
Amounts approved not yet spent - R4 508 000			
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R1 183 000			

On 1 June 1983 dividend No. 89 of 65 cents per stock unit was declared payable to members registered on 17 June 1983. Dividend warrants will be posted on 4 August 1983.

During the quarter the carbon-in-pulp section of the new reduction works has been brought on stream. Because of commissioning problems, coupled with the phasing in of new sections whilst phasing out the old sections, gold production during the next quarter may not be on the same level as in the present quarter.

MARIEVALE Consolidated Mines Limited

Issued capital - 4 500 000 shares of 25 cents each.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	18 478	14 654	33 132
Ore milled (t)	80 000	81 000	161 000
Gold produced (kg)	297	275	572
Yield (g/t)	3.3	3.4	3.3
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	49.58	58.87	54.94
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	36.72	35.71	36.21
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	12.86	23.16	18.73
Gold price received (R/kg)	14 979	17 239	16 623
Gold price received (R/kg)	430	498	464

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	4 472	4 752	9 224
- Working costs	3 485	2 973	6 458
- Working income	987	1 779	2 766
Sundry income	86	177	263
Tribute and royalties - net	(18)	(18)	(36)
Income before taxation and State's share of income	961	1 853	2 814
Taxation	609	1 120	1 729
Income after taxation and State's share of income	352	733	1 085
Capital expenditure	1 080	1 080	2 160

Development - Vasil Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	1 048	898	1 946
Advanced on reef (m)	614	519	1 133
Sampled (m)	633	606	1 239
Channel width (cm)	87	96	91
Average value - gold (g/t)	5.1	6.5	5.8
- gold (cm.g/t)	444	620	530

REMARKS	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Capital expenditure	1 080	1 080	2 160
Amounts approved not yet spent - R14 280 000			
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R888 000			

On 1 June 1983 dividend No. 86 of 24 cents per share was declared payable to members registered on 17 June 1983. Dividend warrants will be posted on 4 August 1983.

During the quarter the carbon-in-pulp section of the new reduction works has been brought on stream. Because of commissioning problems, coupled with the phasing in of new sections whilst phasing out the old sections, gold production during the next quarter may not be on the same level as in the present quarter.

LESIE Gold Mines Limited

Issued capital - 16 000 000 shares of 50 cents each.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	60 703	60 201	120 904
Ore milled (t)	285 000	269 000	554 000
Gold produced (kg)	1 007	929	1 936
Yield (g/t)	3.5	3.5	3.5
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	52.63	61.94	56.52
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	37.79	37.94	37.86
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	14.84	24.00	18.66
Gold price received (R/kg)	14 612	16 798	15 682
Gold price received (R/kg)	418	484	454

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	14 899	16 662	31 561
- Working costs	10 770	10 590	21 360
- Working income	4 129	6 072	10 201
Sundry income	387	136	523
Tribute and royalties - net	(387)	(136)	(523)
Income before taxation and State's share of income	4 129	6 072	10 201
Taxation and State's share of income	1 714	3 240	4 954
Income after taxation and State's share of income	2 415	2 832	5 247
Capital expenditure	383	230	613
Dividend declared	4 640	4 640	9 280

Development - Vasil Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	1 685	1 082	2 767
Advanced on reef (m)	606	387	993
Sampled (m)	955	618	1 573
Channel width (cm)	14	15	13
Average value - gold (g/t)	28.2	34.1	36.1
- uranium (cm.g/t)	395	511	458

REMARKS
Capital expenditure
Amounts approved not yet spent - R1 100 000
Commitments in respect of contracts placed - R219 000
Dividend
A dividend of 20 cents per share was paid on 5 May 1983.
Note
Gold working revenue includes the effect of closing out of forward sales contracts during the quarter.

UNISEL Gold Mines Limited

Issued capital - 28 000 000 shares of no par value.

Operating results	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Mined (m ³)	32 155	28 155	60 310
Ore milled (t)	118 000	118 000	236 000
Gold produced (kg)	2 290	2 246	4 536
Yield (g/t)	7.2	7.2	7.2
Working revenue (R/m ³ mined)	108.47	116.75	112.62
Working costs (R/m ³ mined)	40.71	39.61	40.18
Working income (R/m ³ mined)	67.76	77.14	72.44
Gold price received (R/kg)	15 029	16 489	15 650
Gold price received (R/kg)	431	471	444

Financial results (R'000)	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
GOLD - Working revenue	34 493	37 049	71 542
- Working costs	12 945	12 358	25 303
- Working income	21 548	24 691	46 245
Sundry income	571	912	1 483
Tribute and royalties - net	(587)	(1 084)	(2 671)
Income before taxation and State's share of income	21 522	23 519	46 457
Taxation and State's share of income	13 748	14 421	28 169
Income after taxation and State's share of income	7 774	9 098	18 288
Capital expenditure	396	623	1 019
Loan repayments	396	623	1 019
Dividend declared	14 000	14 000	28 000

Development - Vasil Reef	Quarter ended 30.6.1983	Quarter ended 31.3.1983	6 months ended 30.6.1983
Advanced (m)	1 882	224	2 106
Advanced on reef (m)	548	125	673
Sampled (m)	381	103	484
Channel width (cm)	150	108	121
Average value			

90% of Arbuthnot sold for £9.5m

By Victor Felstead

The insurance group, is to buy 90.1 per cent of Arbuthnot Insurance Services from Dow Scandia Holdings and a West German company.

The acquisition values Wrightson's stake in Arbuthnot at about £9.5m. Its main business is reinsurance broking.

The basic cash offer is being financed by the issue of 3.17 million new ordinary shares of £1.50 each, worth £4.76m, which have been underwritten at 22.5p per share and placed with institutions. The balance is covered by a cash payment of £4.74m.

S. G. Warburg, the largest shareholder in Wrightson, supports the acquisition and has agreed to purchase 29.9 per cent of the shares placed through the underwriting.

Wrightson is also offering to buy the 9.9 per cent balance of Arbuthnot and Arbuthnot shareholders will have the opportunity to take all the price in ordinary shares which may result in a minor variation in the number of shares to be issued.

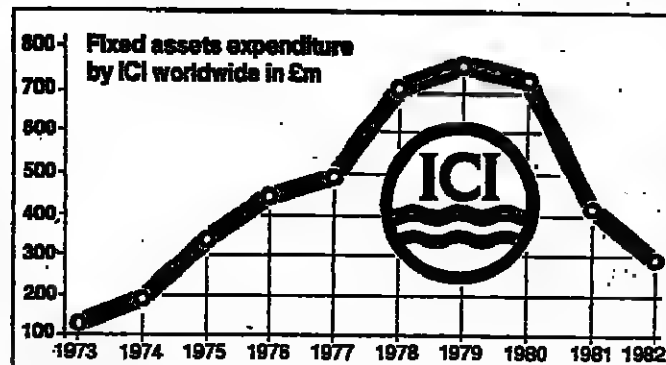
Last year, Arbuthnot made pretax profits of £1.93m. In the present year pretax profits of £1.52m for the first six months, in which larger part of the year's profit is earned, is broadly comparable with the result for the similar period last year.

Nicholson Stewart Wrightson will continue as Wrightson's specialist aviation reinsurance broking company. But the board intends to combine the business of Stewart Wrightson (Reinsurance Brokers) with that of Golding Collins, Arbuthnot's subsidiary. The enlarged company will trade as Golding Stewart Wrightson.

Lasmo

In a report on London and Scottish Marine Oil yesterday, it was incorrectly stated that new preference shares would be redeemed in 1986. The correct year is 1996.

ICI prepares for spending spree



After the Mayfair cash mountain comes the Millbank molehill. ICI's £29m surplus on the flow of funds is not in GEC's league - but things have been changing fast. Under Mr John Harvey Jones, ICI is becoming a different animal.

What ICI does, with its growing surplus is an intriguing question. The desire to buy is firmly declared. American majors, which it would like, are all judged to be over-priced, and the bulk chemicals business is best left alone.

So it has been forced back on what are known as the "small and usefuls" - three of which it picked up last year in its biggest spending spree for 10 years. ICI spent £94m in nine months, having also bought half-shares in two associate companies.

Large chemical groups are moving into the specialty because returns are higher. The new group which ICI announced this week will reap pretax profits of 10 to 14 per cent, against 2 to 3 per cent in the traditional bulk processing business.

Spotting candidates for bids is almost impossible. It involves collecting all the brochures showing what the majors already sell, and then finding out who has got something worth adding to a salesman's sample case. Access to fresh markets is another draw.

ICI bought Lonza, a Swiss-ICI company, because it broadened its product portfolio in special grades of PVC compounds and resins. It purchased Holden because it extended its can-coatings business in West Germany into France and Britain.

The new Specialty Chemicals group will generate half its growth through company and product acquisitions - to boost

annual sales from £150m today to £500m in six years.

Product takeovers are important because development costs are nudging those of drugs. Only companies with large research budgets and a worldwide sales network can fully capitalize on a new idea within its patent lifetime. ICI took Fusillade, an agrochemicals product, from Japan five years ago to become a US best-seller this year.

Signs of other movements in the "small is profitable" direction come from Shell's proposed takeover of Croda's synthetic chemicals operations, for about £16m. Laporte's purchase of the MIT electronics chemicals business from Huntley is another.

There are advantages for buyer and bought. Smaller companies need the resources their bigger brothers can provide. Competition means that the minnows may start having price-tags hung on them, but against that specialty does not require massive capital spending. ICI's new group directors have factories worth only £30m to £50m.

A recent plunge in capital spending on fixed assets is one

of the main reasons why ICI is now so liquid. That trend will undoubtedly continue, with authorization for spending on new plant standing at 10-year low of £246m, against £804m in 1977.

But real spur to acquisitions is the surge in profits. They are widely predicted to double to £500m pretax this year, which would yield £150m post-tax. ICI's status as a multinational may depend on the new strategy continuing to pay as handsomely.

British Land

The British Land Company Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £7.7m (68.3m)
Stated earnings 6.7p (5.9p)
Net asset value 165p (164p)
Net total dividend 1.25p (10.5p)
Share price 86p, down 6p
Yield 0.8%
Dividend payable 4.10.83

The City is wary of the property sector and any upsets are likely to see the institutions voting with their feet.

Therefore, yesterday's virtually unchanged net asset value from British Land against expectations of an increase from 164p to 180p sent the price down 6p to 86p - and the reduction was from real sales, not just as a result of jobbers marking their prices down.

The second problem was the sudden switch in the dividend policy. British Land has projected itself as a capital growth stock for many years, although, not always with justification. But it has now doubled the dividend.

With a yield of 0.8 per cent the shares are hardly an income stock and the dividend move is unlikely to cut much ice with institutions which are in property for capital growth.

The small increase in the net asset value from 164p to 165p is both conservative and curious. The board decided to reduce a surplus on valuation thrown by the group's own values by about £10m after the directors took a view on its industrial properties and some fringe offices.

But the asset values do not take into account the underlying value of an investment in Growth Realty, a US property company, which could be worth

£12m or British Land's industrial interests which could be worth £12m to £15m if they were ever floated off.

The improvement in profits is good, but includes securities dealing profits worth £2.7m, against £70,000. The industrial interests' contribution was up from £2m to £2.2m, with some help from CQC, a company which makes webbing and ponchos for the British Army.

With resources of £100m in cash and gilts, British Land could be poised to build up an investment portfolio - 30 companies from Classic Cinema to Dorothy Perkins have passed through its hands over the years - by taking more strategic stakes.

It is uncertain, however, whether the existing industrial interests will be floated off - with a low tax charge British Land at present obtains the income gross which makes a separate quote less attractive.

British Land believes that property has had a good run for 30 years, but will slow smartly although not disastrously.

There were red faces at merchant bankers Hill Samuel yesterday when it was discovered somebody had done their sums wrong. Instead of total acceptance for Beecham's recent £197m rights issue amounting to 92.3 per cent, it now appears the figure should have been only 89.3 per cent.

Unfortunately the mistake could prove costly for Hill Samuel which agreed to underwrite the issue. It has now had to take up an extra 2m shares, worth around £7m, among the institutions. But it's good news for Beecham's brokers, Wood Mackenzie and Cazenove which will enjoy the extra commission for placing the shares.

Rush for Metal Sciences sale

By Michael Clark

The offer for sale of 10.8m shares in Metal Sciences, which shot blasting grime, at 11p a share has been an overwhelming success. Investors ploughed more than £128m into the issue.

Brokers Statham Duff Stoop, which brought the shares to the USM along with London Venture Capital, said yesterday that the issue had been 108 times oversubscribed.

Applications for between 1,000 and 15,000 will be balloted for 1,000 shares; 16,000 to 75,000 balloted for 15,000 shares; 76,000 to 150,000 for 2,000 shares; 151,000 to 300,000 for 2,500 shares; 301,000 to 999,000 for 10,000 shares; and 1m and over balloted for 25,000 shares. Statham hopes to announce the results of the ballot on Monday.

Meanwhile, the offer for subscription of 2m shares in Neighbourhood Stores at 210p a share received applications for 3.8m shares. Greig Middleton, the brokers will allocate applications of up to 5,000 shares with 1,000 shares, while more than 5,500 shares will receive about 20 per cent

Clyde sells subsidiary

Clyde Petroleum yesterday announced disposal of its remaining South American trading activities through sale of its subsidiary Class International to South American investors for \$4.5m (£2.96m) of that, \$500,000 has been paid on completion and the balance is payable not later than April 1988. Assets involved were carried in Clyde's books at about £2.5m at the end of last year.

Under the contract, Clyde will also transfer to the purchaser 30 per cent of its interest in the net cash flow from the City oil concession in Ecuador.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %

* 7 day deposits on basis of tender 10,000,000, plus £10,000 up to £50,000, 7% £50,000 and over, 8%.

NOTICE TO ENTITLED ACCOUNT HOLDERS OF SEARS OVERSEAS FINANCE N.V.

10 1/2% Guaranteed Notes due August 1, 1991

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Temporary Global Note and the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of February 1, 1983, the Final Installment equal to 50% of the issue price of each Note (the "Final Installment") is due and payable no later than 3:00 p.m. London time on August 1, 1991. Payment of the Final Installment must be made in U.S. dollars in immediately available funds to EURO-CLEAR at the London office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York. No payment of the Final Installment made after the August 1, 1991 due date shall be accepted unless accompanied by a further payment representing interest accrued on the amount of such payment at a rate of 15% per annum calculated from and including August 1, 1991 to but excluding the date of actual payment on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each. The holder in its sole and absolute discretion may elect not to accept the Final Installment at any time on or after August 1, 1991. Unless notified by the issuer to the contrary, EURO-CLEAR shall have no authority to accept payments on or after August 1, 1991.

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and Trust Company of Chicago
Fiscal Agent and Paying Agent

The Fleming Universal Investment Trust plc

The company is a general investment trust. The objective is to maintain for shareholders an investment portfolio well diversified both as to territory and industry.

Results for Year to 31st March	1983	1982	%change
Total Assets	£63.2m	£47.8m	+32.4
Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share	284.3p	213.2p	+33.3
FT Actuaries All-Share Index	411.94	326.59	+26.1
Net Revenue	£1.48m	£1.34m	+10.3
Dividend per Ordinary Share	6.75p	6.00p	+12.5

"A significant increase in overseas investment has been made without any appreciable impairment in growth of revenue."

D. M. C. Donald, CHAIRMAN

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Robert Fleming Services Limited, P & O Building, 2nd Floor, 122 Leadenhall Street, London EC3V 4QR.

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING General Electric Credit International N.V.

9 1/4% Guaranteed Notes Due 1991

Interested persons are hereby reminded that payment of the second and final installment of the purchase price of the above-mentioned 9 1/4% Guaranteed Notes Due 1991 (the "Notes") of General Electric Credit International N.V. ("International"), such installment being an amount equal to 80% of the principal amount, may be made on August 1, 1993 by persons shown in the records of either Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Operator of the Euro-clear System, or Cedel S.A., as being entitled to such Notes.

Payment of such final installment should be made to the London office of The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association) at the address noted below. No payment made after August 1, 1993 shall be accepted unless accompanied by a further payment representing interest accrued at the rate of 14 1/4% per annum on the amount of such payment calculated from and including August 1, 1993 to but excluding the date of actual payment on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each.

No person is under any obligation to pay or cause to be paid the final installment of the issue price.

Persons entitled to the Notes upon payment of the final installment are reminded that on August 1, 1993 International shall cease to have an obligation to accept payment of such final installment, and in the event of a failure to make payment of the final installment in respect of any Note on or before August 15, 1993, International will be entitled to retain the first installment of the issue price previously paid for such Note and will have no obligation to repay such installment or to pay interest thereon for any period prior to, including or subsequent to August 1, 1993.

Inquiries concerning payment of the final installment on the Notes should be directed to either of the offices of The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association) set forth below:

(For inquiries but not for payment)
The Chase Manhattan Bank
(National Association)
Corporate Trust Administration
1 New York Plaza
New York, New York 10081
U.S.A.
Mr. Frank E. Davis, Jr.
(212) 878-4083

(For inquiries and for payment)
The Chase Manhattan Bank
(National Association)
Woolgate House
Coleman Street
London EC2P 2HD
England
Attention: Corporate Trust Dept.
(01) 726-5242/(01) 726-5485
Telex No. 8954681 CMB G

General Electric Credit International N.V.
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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Index back above 700

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, July 18. Dealings end, July 29. Contango Day, Aug 1. Settlement Day, Aug 8.

Another encouraging performance on Wall Street enabled the 700 for the first time in more than three weeks.

The FT index, which had shown signs of running out of steam closed at its high for the day at 704.4. But this was still some way short of the record level of 734.4 achieved last month.

Leading equities again enjoyed another firm session with Allied-Lyons up 3p at 141p. BTR 7p to 534p. Boots 3p to 200p, while continued bid speculation added another 5p to Bower at 243p.

Gilts scored gains of up to 1/2p and the Government Bond was able to supply some of the new tapelet Exchequer 10 1/2 per cent 1997, £250m of which was offered on Friday.

Dealers estimate that an imminent rise in US interest rates is fully justified and appears to have already been discounted.

The pound also had a good day on the foreign exchange, closing 0.6 cents higher at 1.5243.

Full-year figures are expected from BET later today - the first

since its minority bid for Rediffusion this year. Yesterday the shares jumped to 12p to 245p. The figures are normally released in September, but have been brought forward leading to speculation that they should make good reading.

The announcement this week of a joint cable television venture between GEC and General Instruments of the US has received differing reactions on both sides of the Atlantic. While GEC has risen 3p to 216p this week General Instruments has tumbled \$4 to \$43 1/2. Shearson American Express the influential US brokers have already downgraded earnings over the next two years by almost \$1 a share.

Another firm market this week has been Marley, the tile group, up another 1p to 69 1/2p for a rise of 5p on the week. Once again the dividend date has been brought forward to August 3, leading to talk that

some good news may be on the way.

Renewed bid speculation was good for an 11p rise on Bassett Foods, the liquorice all sorts group at a new high of 92p. One leading broker has just issued "buy" circular and seems prepared to chase the shares high. Close followers of the shares reckon Bassett could be taken over before the end of the year.

Bellair Cosmetics shows few signs of running out of steam, adding another 7p to 540p, after 553p. The shares have risen 120p so far this week, and optimistic dealers estimate they are likely to double over the next three months.

Once again, enthusiasm for the shares stems from the Turkish connexion. As in the case of Folly Peck, which rebounded from less than 8p to over £35 in less than three years, Bellair is now controlled by two Turkish businessmen, Mr Mehmet Tecimer and Mr

Yalcin Ackay of Waskon Establishment paid 7p a share for Fenton Hill's 75 per cent stake in Bellair as recently as April. Investors hope that Bellair will be used for a massive injection of assets which will be used to transform

Expect details next week of a placing on the Unlisted Securities Market of shares in Aromite, the passive fire protection group specializing in North Sea oil platforms. Merchant bankers Lazard Bros and brokers Rowe & Putnam will be placing about 25 per cent of the equity to raise about £500,000. In the past five years pretax profits have trebled to £455,000 on a turnover of £6.5m.

For the group its present plight. Last year the group's reported pretax profits of £13,000 after several years of losses.

Engineer Francis Industries rose 2p to 39p after it emerged that Mepstar Finance, a private

company, had bought 795,000 shares, or 7.2 per cent of the equity. The only other big shareholder in the company is ITC Pension Trust with 9 per cent of the shares.

Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago Regional Investment Trust has bought a further 60,000 shares in the British Industrial and General Investment Trust, taking its total holding to 367,500 shares or 7.6 per cent. ABC is offering 3.25 of its shares for every 3 Bright shares, valuing the deal at 240p a share. Yesterday, shares of Bright held steady at 233, with still no clue to the identity of the third party it is in talks with.

There has been a big institutional buyer of shares in Jackson Exploration, the oil exploration group, which ended the day 4p higher at 85p, after 83p. However, the shares are still well short of the year's high of 300p.

On the unlisted Securities Market, shares of Micro Focus, the microcomputer software group, surged another 55p to 585p. Since last week's interim figures showing pretax profits against the usual loss, the shares have risen over 150p.

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RECENT ISSUES

Issue	Price	Value
1000	10.00	10.00
1001	10.00	10.00
1002	10.00	10.00
1003	10.00	10.00
1004	10.00	10.00
1005	10.00	10.00
1006	10.00	10.00
1007	10.00	10.00
1008	10.00	10.00
1009	10.00	10.00
1010	10.00	10.00

Closing

Price Change

Yield

Dividend

P/E

Market Cap

Sector

Country

Industry

Company

Description

Notes

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CRICKET: OVERSEAS PLAYERS HAVE PROMINENT PART IN SECOND ROUND OF NATWEST TROPHY

Surrey doomed by toss of coin

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

WARWICKSHIRE beat Surrey by nine wickets.

Whether Surrey would have beaten Warwickshire in the NatWest yesterday had they won the toss will never know. Once they had lost it and been put in they were doomed. On a difficult morning for batting they were soon in trouble. Warwickshire, when their turn came to bat, had no such problems. Needing only 139 to win they made them with everything to spare. Warwickshire's victory was a quick revenge for their defeat by Surrey in last year's final.

Although bottom of the Sunday League, Warwickshire have the confidence of much recent championship success. Surrey, even in the best conditions, are short of batting, certainly of real quality. They seem to be short of support as well. Yesterday the public stands were badly deserted. There was probably been a larger crowd at Guildford. What Surrey needed after the start they had was a blinding innings from Lynch, but it was not to be.

The ball moved about a lot for most of the cloudy morning. There was no question of Warwickshire dispensing with a second slip. Kallachar caught three of the first five batsmen there. Butcher took down Lynch at comfortable height and Knight head ball, each one beautifully taken.

At 37 for one, Surrey were holding on, if with some luck. Willis, bowling from round the wicket at the two left-handers, Clinton and Smith, had been beating the ball regularly. But once Surrey's second wicket had been thrown away they were always losing. Smith and Clinton had made 24 together when Smith played Ferreira to third man. With one run completed, Clinton set off on a second, whereupon Smith, seeing Old's return already on his way, sent him back. There were never, I think, two runs there.

By lunch Surrey were 94 for six after 35 overs. Smith, playing back to Ferreira, had been left before Kallachar had hit his last two catches and Richards, to his surprise, had been given out caught at the wicket. Ferreira and Lettbridge, at medium pace, were a lot less than what might be expected to be at the Oval in mid-July. Top scorer for Surrey was Thomas with a busy 37. He was out disappointingly, though, trying to sweep Clifford.

On Sunday an England batsman was run out while carrying his helmet under his arm. Yesterday, when Monkhouse and Thomas were batting together and Clifford was the bowler, the non-striker was to be seen wearing his own helmet and carrying his partner's.

At the start of Warwickshire's innings, when Clarke was bowling, there was only one place for a helmet and that was on the head. But once Lloyd and Smith had negotiated the opening overs Warwickshire were in no danger. The match ended with Kallachar doing much as he pleased.

WARWICKSHIRE
A R Blucher c Kallachar b Willis 11
G S Clinton run out 20
R D Smith lbw b Ferreira 24
D V Knight c Kallachar b Ferreira 24
M A Jones c Kallachar b Ferreira 24
C J Thomas lbw b Ferreira 24
D J Thomas lbw b Ferreira 24
P J Thomas lbw b Ferreira 24
G S Clinton run out 20
Extras (b 12, w 1, nb 10) 23
Total (48.1 overs) 139

FALL OF WICKETS 1-3, 2-37, 3-42, 4-52, 5-58, 6-103, 7-118, 8-120, 9-121, 10-121, 11-121, 12-121, 13-121, 14-121, 15-121, 16-121, 17-121, 18-121, 19-121, 20-121, 21-121, 22-121, 23-121, 24-121, 25-121, 26-121, 27-121, 28-121, 29-121, 30-121, 31-121, 32-121, 33-121, 34-121, 35-121, 36-121, 37-121, 38-121, 39-121, 40-121, 41-121, 42-121, 43-121, 44-121, 45-121, 46-121, 47-121, 48-121, 49-121, 50-121, 51-121, 52-121, 53-121, 54-121, 55-121, 56-121, 57-121, 58-121, 59-121, 60-121, 61-121, 62-121, 63-121, 64-121, 65-121, 66-121, 67-121, 68-121, 69-121, 70-121, 71-121, 72-121, 73-121, 74-121, 75-121, 76-121, 77-121, 78-121, 79-121, 80-121, 81-121, 82-121, 83-121, 84-121, 85-121, 86-121, 87-121, 88-121, 89-121, 90-121, 91-121, 92-121, 93-121, 94-121, 95-121, 96-121, 97-121, 98-121, 99-121, 100-121, 101-121, 102-121, 103-121, 104-121, 105-121, 106-121, 107-121, 108-121, 109-121, 110-121, 111-121, 112-121, 113-121, 114-121, 115-121, 116-121, 117-121, 118-121, 119-121, 120-121, 121-121, 122-121, 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1210-121, 1211-121, 1212-121, 1213-121, 1214-121, 1215-121, 1216-121, 1217-121, 1218-121, 1219-121, 1220-121, 1221

TENNIS

Women players change shirts on Zurich court

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Zurich

The possibilities of professional tennis as a segment of the entertainment business were further exposed when Virginia Wade and her opponent, Claudia Monteiro, changed their shirts on court during the Federation Cup competition here yesterday.

It was done so quickly and so discreetly that few noticed. But the umpire's chair, that hardly anyone noticed the change, was the kind of heat that had been the cause of the change.

Conventional attitudes about this sort of thing are not what they used to be, and it would be unfair to expect tennis to endure unnecessarily dry shirts (men have no such inhibitions) in the kind of heat that has been the cause of the change.

Yesterday the temperature was 92 degrees in the shade. One therefore has to sympathise for Miss Wade, who was wearing a white shirt, and Miss Monteiro, who was wearing a white shirt.

Miss Wade's shirt, behind the protective barrier of a large towel, was drenched with sweat. Wade said later that this was not a thing to do unless it was absolutely hot.

Yesterday three shirt changes were observed. Wade's shirt was changed by her partner, who was wearing a white shirt, and Monteiro's shirt was changed by her partner, who was wearing a white shirt.

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No respite for Gilbert

By Richard Eaton

Kate Gilbert must have felt he had been suddenly dipped into boiling water yesterday. After two days of speculation about his future, the 21-year-old British junior had to face the fact that he was not going to play in the Davis Cup tie against Czechoslovakia.

His manager, David Lloyd, said that Gilbert was "too tired" to play. But it was clear that the young player was not in the best of health. He had been suffering from a cold and a headache for several days.

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EQUESTRIANISM

Dashing off a flawless win

By Jenny MacArthur

Jean Gernany, whose sponsorship contract with Crown Colour Cue Paints finishes at the end of the year, won the Queen Elizabeth II Cup at yesterday's Royal International Horse Show at the White City, riding the Irish-bred Mandingo, aged 10.

It was a low-key event for the competition which as Miss Gernany put it, "wasn't really a big deal". Of the 14 starters only Miss Gernany and Maureen Holden, on the 16-year-old Mister Vee went clear.

For the others, Liz Edgar, who has won the cup four times, went out with eight faults. Kelly Brown, on Fodder, retired after two refusals at the second part of the treble and Lesley McNaught, on Barbarella, went out with 12 faults.

In the jump-off Mrs Holden, the first to go, knocked down the second part of the double, leaving the way open for Miss Gernany. She completed a flawless round to win her first Queen Elizabeth II Cup.

Earlier in the day John Whitaker, riding the Portuguese-bred stallion Novilleiro, owned by the Next showjumping team, won the Midland Bank Cup in a time of 41.67 seconds, only .06 seconds ahead of Robert Smith on Team Sanyo's Cadix.

The 11-year-old Novilleiro is proving a valuable second string for Whitaker, who was runner-up in the main class on Monday night on the treble and Lesley McNaught, on Barbarella, went out with 12 faults.

Yesterday's class a member of the arena party, 17-year-old Mark Whitfield from Catterick, who is in the Junior Leader Regiment of the Royal Armoured Corps, was asked to ride Sue Pountney's ride Pot Black II and had to be taken to hospital with a suspected fractured skull.

Ireland's Eddie Macken proved to be in a class of his own when he won Tuesday night's Godfrey Davis European puissance competition on Carrolls Royal Lion, the horse he is riding in the European championships at Hickstead next week.

Macken was the only rider who really "saw the stride" when approaching the wall, which went up to 7ft 11in in the final round. Macken's own horse, the round was Lionel Dunning on Jungle Bunny, but they failed to clear the wall. Macken's win puts him in the lead for the International Horse Cup, which is based on a points system based on 10 of this year's European puissance events.

Macken's 13 points put him one ahead of Switzerland's Willi Meliger.

The winner of the Midland Bank Horse Trials Open Championships at Locko Park, Derbyshire on August 13 and 14 will receive £1,000. It was announced yesterday that the Royal International Horse Show at the White City, London, is Britain's richest one-day horse trials. Prize money of £5,000 is being put forward by the show, who from 1969-82 were the overall sponsors of horse trials in this country.

The course at Locko designed by David Morion, will run the opposite way to last year's. It cost about £2,000 to make the change.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II CUP: 1. Mandingo (J. Gernany) 0 faults; 2. Mister Vee (L. Edgar) 8 faults; 3. Fodder (K. Brown) 8 faults; 4. Barbarella (L. McNaught) 12 faults; 5. Novilleiro (J. Whitaker) 8 faults; 6. Pot Black II (M. Whitfield) 12 faults; 7. Lionel Dunning (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 8. Jungle Bunny (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 9. Mister Vee (L. Edgar) 8 faults; 10. Barbarella (L. McNaught) 12 faults; 11. Novilleiro (J. Whitaker) 8 faults; 12. Pot Black II (M. Whitfield) 12 faults; 13. Lionel Dunning (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 14. Jungle Bunny (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 15. Mister Vee (L. Edgar) 8 faults; 16. Barbarella (L. McNaught) 12 faults; 17. Novilleiro (J. Whitaker) 8 faults; 18. Pot Black II (M. Whitfield) 12 faults; 19. Lionel Dunning (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 20. Jungle Bunny (L. Dunning) 12 faults; 21. Mister Vee (L. Edgar) 8 faults; 22. Barbarella (L. McNaught) 12 faults; 23. Novilleiro (J. Whitaker) 8 faults; 24. Pot Black II (M. Whitfield) 12 faults; 25. Lionel Dunning (L. 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Banking and Accountancy Appointments

Corporate Finance Executives

Standard Chartered Bank Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC, Britain's largest bank, has a vacancy for Executives at Manager and Assistant Manager levels in its expanding Corporate Finance Division.

The successful candidates will be involved in the bank's Corporate Finance Division, which is a leading bank in the City of London, with a reputation for excellence in the provision of financial services to its clients.

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Financial Controller

North London

c£21,000+car

Our client is a major retail subsidiary of one of the world's largest groups. With a forecasted 1983 turnover approaching £250 million, it has established itself as a market leader through a distinctive selling concept.

A qualified accountant, ideally aged 30-35, is sought to take responsibility for the overall accounting function and candidates will possess:

- ★ Previous commercial experience ideally managing a large department, gained in a competitive operation.
- ★ Familiarity with highly sophisticated computerised systems for management information and reporting.
- ★ Effective man-management and communication skills - particular emphasis is placed on establishing positive internal relationships.
- ★ Self-confidence, precise decision-making and the ability to think creatively.

Candidates should write to Nigel Hopkins F.C.A., enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae quoting ref 932 at P.O. Box 143, 31 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HY.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants

London New York

Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow

Regional Executives Merchant Banking

A long established City merchant bank, part of a large international banking group, is seeking to expand its UK regional network through the appointment of additional Regional Executives based in Birmingham, Colchester and London.

It is expected that successful applicants with the necessary experience will be at least 35 years of age with a background in a leading bank environment, demonstrating credit control and managerial responsibility. In addition, a demonstrable ability to sell financial services is essential.

The remuneration package will be commensurate with the responsibilities of this appointment and the position will offer the opportunity to contribute to the planned corporate development of the Bank.

Interviews will be conducted in London and applicants should write to the following address enclosing curriculum vitae.

The Banking Director, Ref RE83/T
Gray Davies Bank plc
22 Bevis Marks, London EC3A 7DY

ARABIC SPEAKING FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEALERS

International Banking - City

Normal dealing salary + Benefits

We have vacancies for two Arabic speaking dealers with a minimum of two years foreign exchange and deposit experience.

Please write initially giving full details to

MR D LOCKYER
4/6 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7DA

Finance Director

Oil industry London

A major international oil company seeks a Finance Director to join the senior management team located in its London headquarters.

The need is for a high-calibre financial executive who will take responsibility for directing financial planning, financial management and treasury matters, and the data processing and special projects functions. The development of financial control systems, covering all aspects of statutory and fiscal report

requirements, is a key task.

The post demands a qualified accountant, currently holding a senior management position in a substantial commercial concern, ideally within the oil industry.

The very substantial remuneration and benefits package will reflect the significance of this important appointment.

Please send full cv to our Security Manager listing any companies to which it should not be sent. Ref: R2869/T.T.



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Internal Financial Consultant CITY From £15,000 + Car

Inchcape PLC

INCHCAPE is a major international trading group engaged in a broad spectrum of business activities. It is currently seeking a Chartered Accountant with strong commercial acumen to join the Group Financial Controller's Department.

This department undertakes a wide variety of ad hoc projects in planning and control, covering acquisitions, disposals, review of systems and procedures plus broad liaison with other Head Office functions and outside consultants. The position entails extensive world-wide travel.

Candidates, aged £30, should be graduates and have qualified within a 'big 8' practice. In addition to excellent technical skills they must be able to communicate effectively at all levels of management and display determination tempered with practicality and common sense.

Prospects to line management plus additional benefits are excellent.

Applications in the first instance to Sarah Collins.

ROBERT HALF

LEE HOUSE, LONDON WALL, EC2 1JF 01-606 6771

Deputy Group Finance Director

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

The Company

A notably successful £40 million turnover Group with four main operating subsidiaries concentrating in industrial and office development, private housing and construction. Headquarters are in Hitchin, with subsidiaries in U.K. and California.

The Position

Deputy Group Finance Director with key responsibility for the entire group financial control, management information and taxation, and the appraisal of all investment proposals. Reports to the Group Financial Director.

The Task

- To implement a fundamental reorganisation of the Group financial control systems
- To exercise firm financial control over all aspects of the Group's business
- To maintain close liaison and credibility with the operating subsidiary management

Qualifications

- Outstanding experience in central financial controllership in an established property development/construction group
- A real understanding of the industry and the control of project management
- The ability to get appropriate systems established and accepted
- A professional accounting qualification is essential
- Age is likely to be over thirty and under fifty

Compensation

The need is urgent for an exceptional and proven performer. The compensation for the right man will also be exceptional including a high base salary plus bonus and excellent fringe benefits.

Please send full c.v. details to Box T1/808,
St. James's House, 4/7 Rad Lion Court, Fleet Street,
London EC4A 3EB.

Hunting Gate 4444

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TUTION REQUIRED for 2 boys aged 13-14, based in SW15 area on introduction to computer systems. August 8 Aug. 9 Sept. 10. 10-15 hrs per week. Please apply to M. D. Canny on 0622 75622.

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Bored with your job?
Now you have a chance to improve your career prospects. A 5 day course in sales training - 22nd August at the Hotel Metropole, Brighton. £245 incl. Write to: I.P.T.S. 181a Church Rd, Hove, Sussex BN3 2AD. *****

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General Appointments

Financial Research and writing for Which? Magazine

Due to promotion, we have a vacancy for a Financial Researcher to join the Money Group at Which?

Money reports in Which? aim to give people the information they need to run their financial lives sensibly. They include specific reports on tax, mortgages, insurance, investment, and employment. Other reports cover general economic topics - for example new technology, or the state of British industry.

To begin with, the researcher will spend most of his or her time researching and writing reports for Which?. Later on, he or she is likely to become involved in other ways of publishing information. These may include books, newsletters, computer programs, and so on. Researchers develop their own areas of expertise. In these areas, they may represent Which? on radio or (more rarely) on television, and may help to campaign for changes in laws and in codes of practice.

We are looking for someone who is highly intelligent, numerate, and literate; able to master complex subjects and express them in simple language. We need someone who is imaginative, who can get at the truth, and who isn't side-tracked by received wisdom or contemporary myth.

Qualifications: a degree is essential. Financial knowledge or experience will be an advantage, but talent and ability are more important.

Salary: normal entry point £2,174 on a scale rising to £12,125, with scope for further progression. Free season ticket loan, free life insurance, five weeks' holiday, etc.

For more information, an application form, and a short test, please write to the Personnel Manager, 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2N 6DS.

Which?

General Appointments

Phillips & Drew Economist

There is a vacancy in our Economic research section for a specialist in forecasting the short-term outlook for the West German and French economies. Applicants should preferably have had at least two years' experience in a financial or forecasting environment, but well-qualified recent graduates will be considered. Ability to speak German or French would be an advantage.

The successful candidate will join an economic and corporate research team with a high reputation in the City and in Industry. Remuneration is competitive and there is scope for rapid advancement. Some overseas travel is likely. There are a profit-sharing scheme, pension fund and other benefits.

Please send a brief curriculum vitae and apply to:

Dr Paul Neild, Phillips & Drew,
Lee House, London Wall, London EC2Y 5AP

Assistant Pensions Manager

City of London

Salary

£8,500-£9,500

per annum



Sedgwick

International Insurance Brokers

An interesting vacancy is now open in our Pensions Department at our Aldgate Head Office.

Our Pensions Manager needs an Assistant to take responsibility for the day to day administration of our own staff pension scheme. We are looking for someone who has a sound knowledge of occupational pension schemes and is keen to progress more quickly in their career.

You are in your twenties and are happy to work with figures, yet equally can communicate well with people at all levels.

We offer usual large company benefits including free luncheon, season ticket loan, life assurance and contributory pension scheme.

If this sounds of interest to you, write or telephone now with full career details and qualifications, to: Peter Johnstone, Personnel Manager, Sedgwick Limited, Sedgwick House, 33 Aldgate High Street, London EC3N 1AJ. Tel: 01-377 3456.

*Previous applicants need not apply.

General Manager, Vehicle Contract Hire Company

Income package range c. £20,000-£25,000

Our Client, one of the country's most successful vehicle leasing companies, already has a fleet of several thousand vehicles and a thoroughly realistic plan for further substantial expansion.

This position will be filled by a person with first class management experience in the motor industry, including demonstrable success in practical sales and marketing management. The ability to handle and motivate staff is also a prime requirement.

In fact, to qualify, you must be able to show a record of impressive selling-orientated promotion and sound financial administration. You should also have evident potential for future advancement in order to build on your proven experience as a successful manager.

Appropriate education is essential - followed, preferably, by a business degree. Most likely age bracket: 32-40. Location: South of England.

Rewards will include substantial salary, commission and generous executive-class benefits. Relocation expenses will be paid, if necessary. To apply, please telephone or write, quoting reference M/2480, to: Leon Levy, Director of Recruitment Operations, Aplin Phillimore Associates, Circle House North, 69-71 Wembley Hill Road, Wembley HA9 8BL. Telephone 01-903 9477.

MOTOR INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

APLIN PHILLIMORE

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER

£20,493 - £24,409

The Agricultural Research Council invites applications for the post of Chief Personnel Officer, responsible to the Secretary to the Council, through the Under-Secretary, for personnel aspects of the Council's work. The Chief Personnel Officer takes the lead in personnel matters for the Agricultural Research Service, comprising the eight Institutes and four Units of the Agricultural Research Council, and the fourteen grant-aided Institutes in England and Wales, each of which is a separate employer in its own right. The Chief Personnel Officer also provides substantial guidance to the seven grant-aided Institutes in Scotland, which are also part of the Agricultural Research Service. The total staff administered is over 7,000 of whom more than half are scientists.

The duties of the post include: overall manpower planning and the evolution of personnel policies for the Agricultural Research Service; provision of the personnel input to the Council's policy-making; personnel procedures and practice and advice to the

Secretary to the Council and Institute Directors on a wide range of personnel matters; the conduct of relations with the Trade Unions recognised by the Council centrally as representing the staff of the Agricultural Research Service.

Candidates should have extensive relevant experience in personnel work, preferably including scientific research staff. A professional qualification in personnel management would be an advantage.

The salary of the post is equated with that of a Civil Service Assistant Secretary and is currently £20,493 - £24,409 per annum. Pension arrangements are by analogy with the Principal Civil Service Superannuation Scheme.

Applications should be sent to the Under-Secretary, Agricultural Research Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6DT, by 15 August. Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Council, telephone 01-580 6635 extension 262.



Management Consultant

Salary and benefits widely negotiable.

Providing you have a successful record in personnel or general management, this could be your natural next step forward.

Aplin Phillimore Associates are now Europe's largest management consultancy specialising in services to the motor industry - major manufacturers and dealers and others involved in transport and distribution. We attribute much of our success to our practice of limiting new staff appointments to executives who, in their own way, have also been successful. In this case, you would provide our clients with advice and practical support in recruitment, management development and personnel matters. To do so, you must be well educated, determined and self-confident - but able to communicate fluently. Your aim for each client will be improved operational efficiency.

The position offers you not only a high income, but also variety, involvement at senior levels and close contact with colleagues from other disciplines.

To apply, telephone Leon Levy, Director of Recruitment, on 01-903 9477, quoting reference M/2480. Or write to Aplin Phillimore Associates, Circle House North, 69-71 Wembley Hill Road, Wembley HA9 8BL.

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Appointments
Phillips & Drew
Economist

General Appointments

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To supervise interior design projects in London and the Middle East. High salary for the right applicant.
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105-114 years: £550.00
115-124 years: £600.00
125-134 years: £650.00
135-144 years: £700.00
145-154 years: £750.00
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215-224 years: £1100.00
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845-854 years: £4250.00
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5655-5664

Edited by Peter Davalle

CHOICE

[illegible]

Radio 4

Radio 1 Roadshow in Pwllhel: 12.30
pm Newsbeat, 12.45 Mike Smith
2.00 Newsbeat, 2.15 Peter Dinklage,
including 5.30 Newsbeat, 7.00
Talkabout, 8.00 David Jensen, 10.00
John Peel / 12.00 midnight close. WHF
Steve Wright, 4.30 Peter Dinklage,
including 6.30 Newsbeat, 7.00
Talkabout, 8.00 David Jensen, 10.00
John Peel / 12.00 midnight close. WHF
Steve Wright, 4.30 Peter Dinklage,
including 6.30 Newsbeat, 7.00
Talkabout, 8.00 David Jensen, 10.00
John Peel / 12.00 midnight close. WHF
Steve Wright, 4.30 Peter Dinklage,
including 6.30 Newsbeat, 7.00
Talkabout, 8.00 David Jensen, 10.00
John Peel / 12.00 midnight close. WHF
Steve Wright, 4.30 Peter Dinklage,

Music in our Time:

The Magazine's Years 2-8 A Decade of
Outlook, 4.00 World News, 4.00 Commentary,
4.15 Assignment, 5.00 World News, 8.09
Magazine's Years 9-16 The Magazine's
9.15 United Newsletter, 9.20 in the Magazine,
9.30 Business Matters, 10.00 World News
Magazine, 10.75 The World Today, 10.75
Week, 10.30 Financial News, 10.40
Reflections, 10.45 Sports Roundup, 11.10
World News, 11.10 Commentary, 11.15
Magazine's Years 17-24 The Magazine's
12.00 World News, 12.09 News About Britain
12.18 Radio Newsletter, 12.25 Summary
Magazine, 12.75 The World Today, 12.75
1.50 in the Magazine, 2.00 World News, 2.05
Review of the British Press, 2.15 Financial
Matters, 2.15 United Newsletter, 2.20
World News, 3.00 News about Britain, 3.15
The World Today, 3.30 Business Matters, 4.35
Financial Affairs, 4.55 Reflections, 5.00 World
Today, 5.75, 7.00, 7.40, 8.00, 8.50, 9.00
World Today.

All times in GMT.

THE SHIP THE SYMBOLS mean:
★ Steaming ★ Black and white oil Report

TYNE TEES As London except
9.25-9.30am North
East News 10.25 Tarran 11.15 Window

TYNE TEES As London except:
9.25-9.30am The News
East News. 10.25 Tarrant. 11.15 Window
In the Ice. 11.59-12.00 Presume. 1.20-
1.25 The News. 1.30-1.35 City. 1.40-1.45
Lookaround. 1.55-5.45 The Grit. 6.00
North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25
Northern Life. 7.05 P.S. It's Paul Soreau.
7.35-8.00 Film: Tarrar in the Sky. 10.32
1.20 The News. 11.15-11.30 City. 11.35
And My Camera. 11.35 Ladies Man.
12.02 Epilogos. 12.05am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except:
8.25 Weather. 10.25
The Nature of Things. 10.50 Steamboat
Bill. 11.05 Sport Bill. 11.35 Presume.
1.20. 11.45 News. 1.30 The News.
Woman. 5.15 Benson. 5.00 Calendar
6.45 Crossroads. 7.35 Robin's News.
7.35 Film: Tarrar in the Sky. 10.30 Wg
And My Camera. 11.00 Pasi Masters.
11.30 Star Class. 12.00 Closedown

CRANE
17

THE NICHOLSONS
Sir Wm Nicholson, born 1811, died 1871
Died 1871, buried 1871, at 10, 10, 10
Died 1871, buried 1871, at 10, 10, 10
Died 1871, buried 1871, at 10, 10, 10

DAVID GARRETT LTD. 15 Duff St.
J. Garrett, Ltd. 15 Duff St.
City Art Gallery, from Manchester
11-10-5

FINE ART SOCIETY, 149 New Bond
St. London, W.1. 11-10-5
Central Exhibition, sponsored in
John Birch, 11-10-5

LEVEY'S GALLERY, 30, Blenheim St.
W.1. 11-10-5
11-10-5
11-10-5
11-10-5

LEVEY'S GALLERY, 30, Blenheim St.
W.1. 11-10-5
11-10-5
11-10-5
11-10-5

LOCUS GALLERY, HAMPSHIRE
4006, Plazuela, London, W.1. 11-10-5
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commended" THE
August
LUMLEY

Dropouts and Drawings Till 22
MARLBOROUGH 8 Albemarle
 W. HENRY HOWARD 850th Birth
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 12-15-52 12-15-52 12-15-52
MATTHEWS T-R Manns' SW4
 Duke St. Jam'n' SW4 1950
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MONTEPELLER STUDIO 4 Montpelier
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NOORTHMAN & SROD 8 Burr Street
 St Jam'n' SW4 839 2506 7th
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PEACH 2881 Peach Street

1 Props 1.40, 3.55.
Night Show Sat.
45, & 00.

ROYAL ACADEMY. But third on House Piccadilly. Open 10 a.m. daily. **EXHIBITION** of 100 paintings, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Admission 1.45, and concessional rate 75p. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

SPINK GALLERY. 5 King Street. Mr James's SW1 10 at Spink. Tel. 01-479 1111. Open daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ST JAMES CHURCH, Piccadilly. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **EXHIBITION** of 100 paintings, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Admission 1.45, and concessional rate 75p. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

TATE GALLERY, Millbank, SW1. The **ESSENTIAL CLASSICS** of 1907-20. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun. 12 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 1.45, and concessional rate 75p. Recorded information 01 821 7120.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Kensington, SW7. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **EXHIBITION** of 100 paintings, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Admission 1.45, and concessional rate 75p. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

EUM. THE
SINCE 1900.
Mon-Sat 10-5.

DEPART: 11:30 AM October. THE
COMMON CHRONICLE: Archival
Treasures from Record Office. 11:30
11 Sept. Adm free Weds 10.0-3.0
Subs 2.50-5.50. Closed Friday.
Recorded information 01 581 4894.

